MADE FROM SURFING

SURFING LIFE

Finally a Reasonable take on the Shark issue



Summer FunBoard Guide

Wade Goodall's Resurrection

Don't worry Everything's going to be alright

SURFER: MIKEY WRIGHT
PHOTO: BOSKOVICH

ISSN 1036-3491 01
9 771036 349005

ISSUE 328 JAN 2016
AUST: $10.50 INC GST // NZ: $10.95 INC GST
UK: £4.50 // PP 435266/00005




LIKE
WEARING
NOTHING
Owen Wright wears Mirage Split
MIRAGE
THE ULTIMATE BOARDSHORT
RIP CURL
A PRODUCT OF THE SEARCH

RIP CURL

SEARCHGPS

WORLD'S FIRST GPS SURF WATCH

TRACK EVERY WAVE KNOW EVERY TIDE

MATT WILKINSON



Rip Curl Search GPS App

Open iTunes and download for FREE.



JACK FREESTONE

PlatinumX | TRIBONG

PREFORMANCE BOARDSHORTS













LIFES
~~BETTER~~
~~INBOARD~~
SHORTS









THE REEF ROVER WORN BY **SHANE DORIAN**





SWELLULAR TECHNOLOGY

FEATURED IN THE REEF ROVER

THE SEA IN EVERY STEP











"This isn't Wade V.2 as much as it's Wade V.40. I've done a lot of searching inward in my life, a lot of personality changes, a lot of sides of me that I wasn't happy with –maybe mine were a bit more out there than a lot of people's – but it's working itself out for sure. I'm a different person now, but that doesn't translate into how I surf. I still want to go really fast and do really big jumps and get smashed and all that shit, because that's what feels best to me."

BANGALOW FAMILY MAN, WADE GOODALL.
PHOTO: SHIELD



PHOTO: FRED POMPERMAYER

ALBEE LAYER


DAKINE
@dakine_surf



Californica Boardshort
Bryce Young



Namibia Coast Boardshort

BOARDSHORTS MADE FROM COCONUTS

Our Upcycled Coconut Stretch Boardshorts are made with yarns upcycled from coconuts. Upcycling is the process of converting useless products into new garments. This allows us to create performance garments with faster dry times and UV protection while reducing the amount of coconut husk waste in landfills.

www.vissla.com

SURFING LIFE
MADE FROM SURFING



ISSUE 328

PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD



33 **TECHNIQUE**
Jacob Wilcox hacks, and why!



38 **WADE GOODALL**
Back from the break(s).



54 **ICANDY**
Nothing but pure surf porn.



72 **SHARKS**
Finally, a reasonable discussion.



90 **SHARK GIRL**
More rational conversation, what the?



94 **SUMMER FUN BOARD GUIDE**
It's that time of year, prepare immediately!

REGULARS

008 UP AHEAD
018 914 WORDS
022 MOMENTS
033 TECHNIQUE
104 BOARDRIDERS BATTLE
106 THE WIRE
110 THANKS FOR COMING

SURFINGLIFE.COM.AU



COVER SHOT

SURFER: Mikey Wright
PHOTO: Boskovich

Summer is boardies, fun boards, blue water... and doing huge airs over your mates' heads. Mikey Wright, all of the above.


WET TO DRY
UNREASONABLY FAST
ONEILL.COM / PHOTO: RESPONDEK



O'NEILL HYPERDRY

+ QUICK DRY
+ WATER REPELLENT
+ BREATHABLE

HYPERFREAK BOARDSHORTS
WITH O'NEILL HYPERDRY

JORDY SMITH

O'NEILL

UNREASONABLE EXPECTATIONS SINCE 1952

THE GREATEST FEAR

I once read somewhere that most people fear public speaking more than they fear death. Think about that for a second. Public speaking is daunting; there's a chance you can make a fool of yourself in front of a bunch of strangers. You may pee your pants, or stutter, or say something wildly inappropriate – maybe a little five-cent-piece of pee will form on your crotch while you t-t-talk about making out with your cousin – and that's pretty crummy, but to be more scared of addressing an audience than of literally dying is ridiculous. Dying means death, finito, goodbye, adios, and you're a goner. It means no more anything ever, unless you believe in one of the gods and their imaginary sky palaces, but if you don't believe in some kind of afterlife then death should be a pretty terrifying concept due to its absolute finality. No more barrels, babes, burritos, Boxing Day sales; no more nothing, nada, bada bing bada byeeee.

Public speaking isn't my greatest fear, not at all. I'm intimidated by it, but I'll have a dig at the dais. Dying ain't my greatest fear either, but only because I don't think of death often enough to really fear it. My number one fear, the thing that fills me with pure dread, is the idea of seeing another man with an excited face. Not men who are excited, per se, but when their countenance betrays their emotional arousal. You read that correctly. I don't mind happy men, sad men, angry men, bored men. I don't mind seeing a grown man cry; it makes me feel weird and awkward, but I'm not scared of it. But an excited man whose face is an advertisement for their anticipatory joy? I'm running for the hills.

I know that this seems strange to you; that this appears to be a trivial fear, given everything that's out there and the tenuous thread that suspends us between the living realm and death's eternal sleep, but walk with me through this incursion into my great fear: you're watching television with your old man; something banal, some kind of time filler, like The Footy Show. Fatty Vautin is doing a mildly humorous thing, but mostly embarrassing himself. You stare at the television with blank, dead eyes, as you're just going through the rigmarole of filling in time with vacuous entertainment as you wait for sleep and its wondrously erotic dreamscape. For some reason you look to your left, towards your papa. He is watching the same program, but with a look of inexplicable excitement on his face. Eyes wide, mouth agape in some dumb grin, he feels that you're looking at him and turns that terrifying, excited face towards you, as if to say, Isn't this just the best thing you've ever seen!

Shudder. Vomit. Gouge out your eyes with the back of a spoon.

Other things that I'm afraid of include running out of wine, and sharks. Running out of wine is the worst, especially if you're entertaining to impress and the juice is loosening the lips, the conversation is flowing, and the clothing becoming gradually less absolutely attached to your company. A cessation of vino will certainly stifle conversation and weld your lady friend's pants on, so always stock enough wine to make sure this never transpires. You don't want to live out your days with the crippling regret of missing what could have been if your plonk supply didn't run dry.

Then there are sharks, those things that occupy a Voldemort-esque level of unspeakability. We don't really talk about sharks – never in the water, rarely in the carpark, and with other surfers only in hushed, superstitious, reverent tones. Surfing Life has a responsibility with the website to provide information when an encounter occurs, because we think the community needs to know which areas are hot; we want to put sharks on the agenda, to let the people know what's happening, so they can word up the policy makers that we're scared and we want something done. Nothing kneejerk, like some mainstream and surf media outlets want; not some wanton cull, a puerile act of revenge that won't keep us safe. We want something effective, something that actually protects surfers, while preserving the health of our oceanic ecosystems. We want to know what's going on, and how we can stop it. We want research.

I'm no blindly-bleeding-heart environmentalist who puts pelagic life above people. If the science came back saying that unfortunately some Noahs would have to taste hook to save some surfers, then I'd be happy to see a handful of Bruces get gaffed, but as of now nothing says that a cull'll be effective. There's got to be another way to protect surfers; a way that doesn't reek of pin-dicked fear, false bravado leading to a pitchfork-wielding mob mentality, exacting revenge on animals that are simply exercising their purpose on earth, bullies braying for blood from behind a keyboard.

What I want is to enter the ocean knowing that money and time has been invested in understanding the animals that inhabit it; their behaviours, and how we can prevent becoming a part of that natural cycle. Staying out of the ocean isn't an option – anybody who has ridden waves knows that – we're there for keeps, so now we're waiting for a solution as to how we can keep safe. And when it's implemented, you never know, you may even see me pull an excited man face. ***– Wade Davis***

Revise that, the greatest fear is excited shark face.
PHOTO: RICH PIXELS

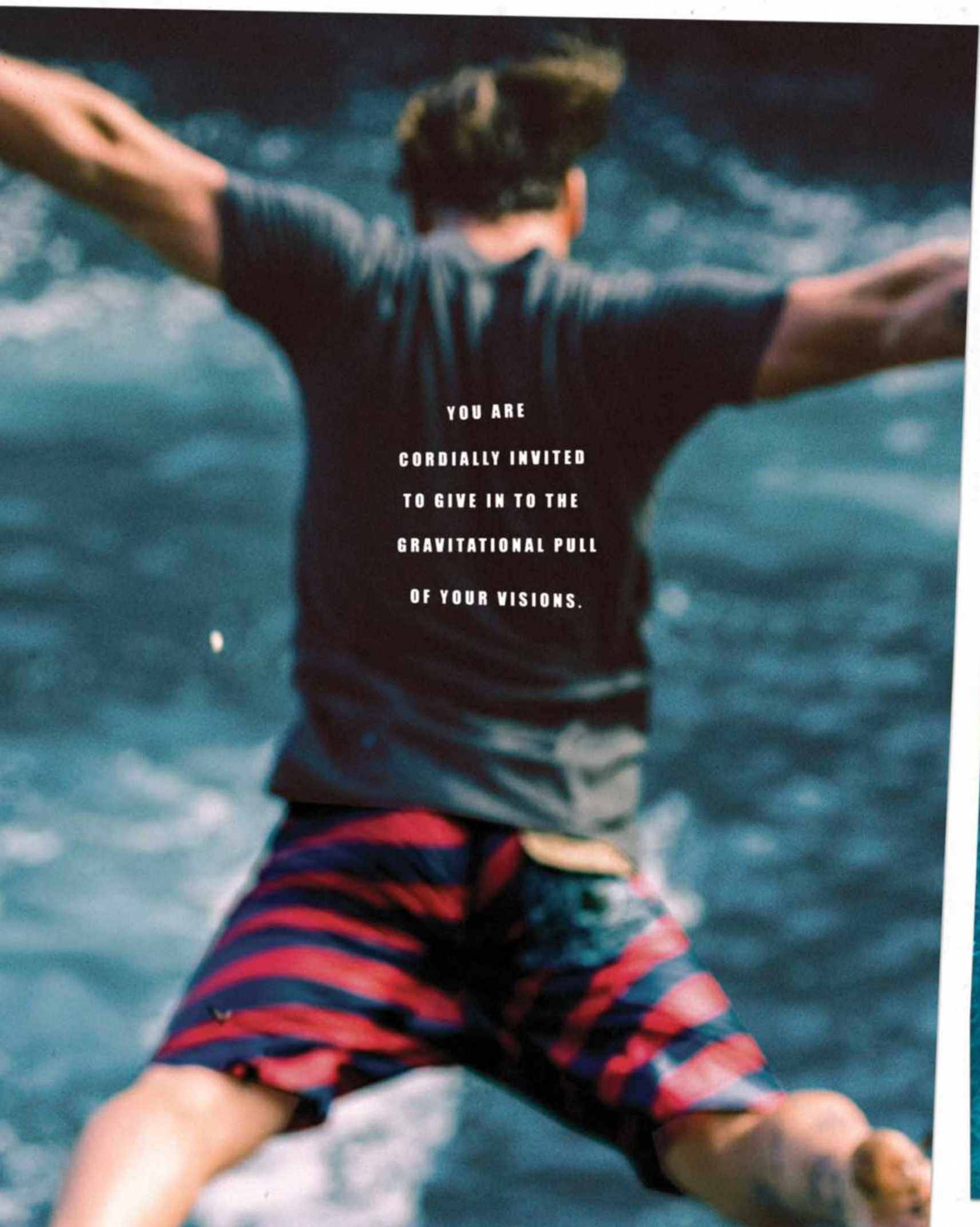



MORE GRIP MORE DRIVE
JULIAN WILSON / SIGNATURE TRACTION



SURFFCS.COM.AU


VOLCOM BOARDSHORTS
WELCOME TO WATER
TRUE TO THIS
VOLCOM.COM.AU
MITCH COLEBORN WEARS STRIPEY SLINGERS


YOU ARE
CORDIALLY INVITED
TO GIVE IN TO THE
GRAVITATIONAL PULL
OF YOUR VISIONS.

DONE AGAIN

DOMINIC MOSQUEIRA / CHRIS BINNS
8:00PM, 12TH NOVEMBER, 2015

As you are no doubt aware, John Florence's latest bio-epic, *View From A Blue Moon*, was unveiled in a string of cinemas worldwide on November 11 and 12. Hawaii was the big one, maybe not for numbers but certainly for importance. Held at JJF's old school of Sunset Elementary and packed with everyone from Pipe Masters to mates to menehunes, John was briefly thrust into the spotlight to say a few words to a field of awe struck, sun kissed grommets before the movie kicked off.

Pre-recorded videos of Florence welcoming you to his world were shown at other venues. Global surf capitals like the Northern Beaches and Southern California packed out spacious halls, hip kids in Cape Town and Tokyo got their fill, and I was lucky enough to witness the spectacle on the largest screen in Paris at the historic Cinema Rex, the night before the tragic massacres in the French capital.

For all the hype it was lavished with, *View From A Blue Moon* delivers in spades, and for the right reasons. Yes, as we've heard ad nauseum, Brainfarm came on board, it was all filmed in 4K, there were choppers filming choppers and John C. Reilly narrated the affair. The soundtrack is stacked with John and Blake Kueny's usual sharp selections – everything from James Murphy remixing David Bowie to Motorhead – and the locations and scenic shots are a sight to behold, but as the credits roll, prior to a great, little bonus Bruce Irons edit, it is John's incredible surfing that well and truly shines as the star of the show.

From start – Grom John growing up on the North Shore, calling out neighbours old (Jamie O'Brien) and new (Kelly Slater) – to finish, John's surfing is lightning fast, devastatingly powerful, and reflexive like a cat. His aerial game is all you'd expect and then some, his turns perhaps the most surprisingly aspect of his attack, brutal yet refined, with unorthodox tweaks and new lines drawn when you least expect them. The dedication Team John put into keeping the lid on killer clips, either surfing well of the beaten path or if dealing with a crowd, buying out the beach of clips afterwards, is worthy of recognition, a sign of how seriously these guys take their product. Alongside John's surfing, his influence and relationship with Kueny are stamped all over the release, these are two guys who won't settle for anything but the best, and it shows.

With the exception of the comedic stylings of Reilly at beginning and end, the movie bears a remarkable feel to *Done*, John's 2012 release. In no way is that a bad thing, given we're talking about one of the best releases of the past decade, but between windy West Oz, South Africa and Hawaii, and very few new inclusions to Florence's tight crew, it didn't feel like the movie marked new ground geographically or in personnel. Given the incredible Tahiti section in the previous release, that was the one I sat and waited for this time around, before realising at film's end that Chopes and beyond had their limited run in the opener, and there would be no more.

The sole slow moment of *VFABM* is the Brazil section, where all the stunning set-up shots and crystal blue water in the world can't hide the fact that what should have been a glorious John and Filipe Toledo shootout is hobbled by plum average surf. But I'm nit picking, the film is a masterpiece. The incredibly high resolution footage offers a true study in Florence's mastery of his craft, the subtle movement of his feet between take-off and launch, his feel in the sketchiest of tubes, the absurd positions he gets himself into through his moves and the incredible proprioceptive skills he has at his disposal to recover from them, while barely breaking stride in waves of all size and scale.

Watching John surf in such intimate detail, I found myself for the first time ever questioning the apparent ease with which he does it. His arms remain by his sides – *Heavy Hands*, as Chippa Wilson calls them – through the most complex and critical of manoeuvres, but seeing the thought and care that goes into every other aspect of his game you have to suspect that at some point in all of the skating and endless days in the water, John has cast a thought towards how he looks while doing it. If this movie tells you anything about the reluctant star it is that he truly loves surfing, lives for it no less, and cares a whole lot more than his laconic style would lead you to believe.

The Hawaiian highlight is arguably the greatest closing section in surf movie history, impossible to look away from and making an irrefutable case that there is no better surfer in the world. After starring against JOB at Pipe in the opener, taking down his fellow Hawaiian flyboys in West Oz, then going toe-to-toe with Filipe wasn't enough proof of John's all around game, this half-dozen minutes of imperial surfing sears your retinas. Two (maybe three?) flips barely register as the clips pile on top of each other. The biggest alley-oop you'll ever see is followed by some of the best Pipeline late-drop-to-firehose-exits of Florence's life. All of this seems sped up, so clear is the footage, so sharp John's movements, so precise his brutality. If this isn't the best surf movie ever, this section is the best curated collection of prime cuts you could imagine, and suddenly it's over and you realise you need to take a deep breath and collect your thoughts.

In this day and age of popcorn webclips, John Florence and his sidekick Blake Kueny have taken a step back from the endless surf porn releases, and taken surfing two massive steps forward as a result. There won't be another surf release like this for a long time, so get stuck into it while it's fresh, and savour it for the next dozen years. Game changer? Most definitely. Will anyone else be able to match it? Highly unlikely.

See for yourself, View From A Blue Moon is available on the iTunes store right now.









EISH, BRU!

ANDREW SHIELD RYAN JONES
2:17PM, 30TH OCTOBER, 2015

To say that Andrew Shield – Surfing Life's resident lensman, powerhouse natural footer and purveyor of mixed lollies – has his finger on the global swell pulse is quite the understatement. You may use any number of excellent and accurate surf-forecasting apps and websites on your respective devices – Surfline, Swellnet, Coastalwatch, Seabreeze, MagicSeaweed, Buoyweather, WindyTy et al – we just have Shieldsy. He's our swell-forecasting app. If it's about to pump, somewhere in the world, he'll know about it… and will already be putting imaginary plans in place involving surfers, transit and logistics as to make the most of the impending pits.

Over the years, however, off the back of his litany of correct calls, he's seen more perfect waves break down more perfect reefs, points and stretches of sand than most people would have the chance to see in multiple lifetimes. Due to this glut of perfection, Shieldsy's standards are now pretty damn high. The quality has to be assured if he feels it's going to be worth his while sitting in a few metal birds and a number of airports, especially if it's somewhere he's been before. One place that he'll never tire of, however, where the risk will always be worth the reward, is the azure, blue jewel in Micronesia's crown, Pohnpei's P-Pass.

And how to keep things fresh in places that have had the pleasure of Shield-man's lens in the past? Well, take guys who haven't been there before. Take them on the largest and most intimidating of swells and then force them over the ledge and into oblivion. In this case, South Africa's Brendon Gibbens was the test-dummy during a remarkably early North Pacific swell, a signifier of a strong El Nino kicking into gear.

"This was my first trip to Pohnpei. It's a beautiful island with first and third world elements; it's definitely been Americanised, and there are more mod-cons than you would expect for its isolation, but it's filled with friendly, accommodating and laidback Micronesian locals, always chewing betel nut.

"The wave itself is incredible! It's definitely one of the best breaks I've ever surfed. We arrived a day before the swell was due, so we had time to get acclimated, which was definitely handy. On the day the swell arrived, we paddled out at around 8am and it was only around two-foot. It then got progressively bigger throughout the day and by 5pm it was six- to eight-foot with some bigger sets, which was pretty on point for the swell forecast and what Shieldsy and Allois (Pohnpei Surf Club owner and operator) were calling in the lead up. There were, however, a couple rogue sets that were quite surprising for everyone in the line-up! Luckily I didn't cop any solid beatings, but Shane Fletcher (videographer) did. He took a 10-foot wave to the head! He lost his fins and almost lost his camera!

"Dillon Perillo, Wade Goodall, Kai Hing and I were pretty much the only surfers out there. There were a couple recreational surfers in the line-up, but they let us take whatever wave we wanted. I think it was Wade's fifth time to P-Pass, so he was charging pretty hard! I guess all the experience helped. He generally goes wild though, no matter what the waves are like. He's really gnarly and his surfing has inspired me for several years. (Wade's profile piece, with plenty of P-Pass action, is merely a few pages away, stay tuned! – Ed.) The last day was tough, though. The waves were fun. Actually, they were perfect! But we were all so burnt and exhausted after spending the two previous days in the sun. We were roasted and peeling and could barely see!"

Third-degree burns, melanomas and pterygiums for a handful of these babies? We're sold.



LUCKY STRIKE

BENJAMIN GINSBERG
9:45PM, 28TH OCTOBER, 2015

It was the very beginning of the season, and a hurricane was barrelling down on the Hawaiian Islands from the east. Most people were initially focused on what track it was taking and what havoc it could potentially wreak on the Islands. As that storm system looked to shift away, I noticed a system in the North Pacific that was prime to bring swell towards Mavericks. Apparently others noticed it as well, and I began receiving calls, texts and Snapchats with swell charts and maps – always a good sign.

Looking at the expanded North Pacific models, however, I saw it tracking towards Hawaii; potentially bigger than Mavericks and with a second, possibly larger, swell trailing close behind. I began making some calls, texts and Snapchats of my own! It turns out I was far from the only one interested in these systems. The more enquiries I sent out, the more intriguing a strike mission to Hawaii became. I wavered back and forth for about 12 hours, but after hearing too much hype to ignore, I abandoned my plans for Mavericks, cashed in some frequent flyer miles, and decided to hop on over to Maui. In less than 24 hours, the forecast models were going off the chart. I figured, worst case scenario, I'd get the same size waves as Mavs, but with the local contingent out in force, and warm, blue water instead of the cold, green/grey variety.

By the time I hit the ground a day-and-a-half later in Maui, on a Monday, the swell was downgraded and pushed back by about 12 hours. Instead of peaking during the day on the Tuesday, it would now peak overnight and be five- to 10-feet smaller than predicted. These things happen, though, and the second swell still looked to be on point, so my hopes were still high. But that first evening on the cliffs, before the swell was supposed to hit, was when I first started hearing uncertain talk. Heavy winds were now expected, and the big question was whether we'd have any waves to surf the following day at all, or if the swell would come and go under cover of darkness the following night.

Tuesday morning at dawn I woke up to rain and feral roosters crowing in the streets. Ho'okipa was large, but closing out across the entire bay with the wind so strong I had to make calls from the cover of my Jeep. Indecision was the primary vibe on the clifftop that morning. The consensus was the swell wasn't going to show until mid-morning or even midday at the earliest. Ian Walsh and Shane Dorian were split; Ian wanted nothing to do with the winds,



but Shane wanted to wait it out and see. But they eventually took off and almost everyone followed their lead for their own breakfasts or work. The prominent question was: risk it at Jaws later in the day, or head over to the west side where we'd be sheltered from the winds?

By mid-afternoon the waves arrived. Kai Lenny and his support team were cruising the line-up, but nobody was going out. Ian led the charge off to the west side before he hopped over to Oahu and won the HIC Pro. People started filing out. Shane stayed, hoping to score some before he hopped a flight to Europe that night, but eventually he took off as well without getting wet. Overall, people were disappointed.

Wednesday's dawn rose, again, to nobody making any preparations to go out. Where are the waves? The consensus was that it had peaked overnight, and most people took off, once again disappointed. Not willing to surrender, however, after coming all this way, I stayed on the cliffs.

Kai and his support crew once again showed up in their boat and two jetskis, and within 20 minutes, Kai's paddling into 20- to 25-foot sets all on his own for up to an hour, before word spread and Tyler Larronde and Niccolo and Francisco Porcella turned up to share the swell before the wind increased.

Being early in the El Nino winter season, the swells weren't exactly what were expected, but they were early, and there were two of them, back to back, which is an impressive way to start the season. Although there was a lot of wind to contend with, and a fair amount of inconsistency, leaving many disappointed, those who were patient and stuck it out scored big.

Being so early in the season, there were actually very few places to view and photograph the bay. Growing a foot or so overhead, sugarcane blocked nearly all the views. A couple of known, level spots at the top of the cliff were either flattened or hacked with a machete waist-high, providing a small viewing window. On Wednesday I took the initiative to climb down part of the steep hillside before the cliff, flattening out cane as I went, to create better views. All locals in pickup trucks on Maui seem to have a machete at hand, and by mid-morning a couple of locals took a machete to a third section of cane, and we had a decent sized viewing platform on the cliffs. By the time I get there next, I'm sure most of the sugarcane will be completely cleared from view.

A TALE OF TWO TOURS

RYAN MILLER WADE DAVIS
2:17PM, 14TH OCTOBER, 2015

Charles Dickens' classic novel *A Tale Of Two Cities* contrasted the plight of the Parisian working class with that of the London well-to-do, in the years leading up to the French Revolution. Selling more copies than any other novel in the history of ever, unless you count the Bible – zing, it doesn't take Voltaire to realise that comparing and contrasting different people in similar situations under polar opposite circumstances is a winning formula. It's what the people want; they want that and they want cake, so we should let them eat it, or off with their goddamn head.

Obscure and confusing revolutionary references aside, the Samsung Galaxy Championship Tour is really the Samsung Galaxy Championship Tour and the Samsung Galaxy Hanging On Requalification Tour. And going into Pipeline later on this month, we have two vastly different, but equally exciting, races going on, one to win and the other not to lose.

The winners, the Dickensian Londoners, are the six men who can take the Title at the Banzai: Mick Fanning, Filipe Toledo, Adriano de Souza, Gabriel Medina, Owen Wright and Julian Wilson. OW and JW are outside chances, hoping for a victory and for the others to fail. They are like barons in Victorian London – they are doing well, but they want to be doing better. ADS and GM are the earls, in that their station in life is better than that of the barons, but still not the best. They need to go a couple of heats ahead of Fanno and Toledo, who are dukes in this convoluted scenario, because they're not kings, because Kelly is still the king.

Of the dukes, FT is in the best position, because he has more to gain when his lowest score is dropped. If FT and MF are both knocked in the semis, then FT wins. That said, looking at current form, World Title experience, skill in big barrels, last year's results at Pipe, and blind favouritism, Filipe really isn't in the greatest position, but Mick is, followed by Gabriel and then Owen/Julian. In any case, these regal bastards are bound to provide one helluva show.

Across the Channel in Paris, but on the other side of the tracks, are the surfers fighting for requalification. If nothing changes at Pipeline, i.e. if all the surfers hovering around the bubble don't make it through round two and don't improve their situation at Pipe, then Michel Bourez is the cut-off surfer at 22 on the rankings. But that won't happen, and so the peasants who have a fighting chance at requalification are, ranked in order of chance: Kolohe Andino, Sebastian Zietz, Miguel Pupo, Adam Melling, Brett Simpson, Ricardo Christie and Glenn Hall. Their chances range from Kolohe, who only needs to make round three to leap the current cut-off; to Micro, who needs to win Pipeline and hope that nobody from this list, plus Michel, makes a heat. Micro's got a baguette's chance of requalifying, a fate that he's resigned to.

But there are surfers on the other side of Michel who could be bumped off by the starving peasantry; surfers like, in order of concern: Keanu Asing, Jadson Andre, Adrian Buchan, Kai Otton and Matt Wilkinson. The reality is that only KA and JA are in any kind of real danger of being bumped, but we did get our mathematicians onto a nightmarish scenario that would lead to Wilko being relegated to the cattle farm next year.

For that to happen: Ottz would have to make round three, Ace into round four, Jadson in the quarters, Keanu and Michel into the semis, and Kolohe runner up. And the chances of this going down are very slim: starving Parisian model in the years before the French Revolution slim. Trés slim. Go and eat some baguettes slim.

So as the year comes to a close spare a thought for both ends of town, Paris and London, the two tales of the haves and have almosts. And have nots (sorry Dusty P, but there's no way that you can requalify via the CT, and bugger all chance on the QS). All the surfers on the Tour are the world's best, but it's just that some of the world's best are bester at different times. This is where we get these dual duels, an aspect of pro surfing that makes our sport more exciting than literature scholarship.



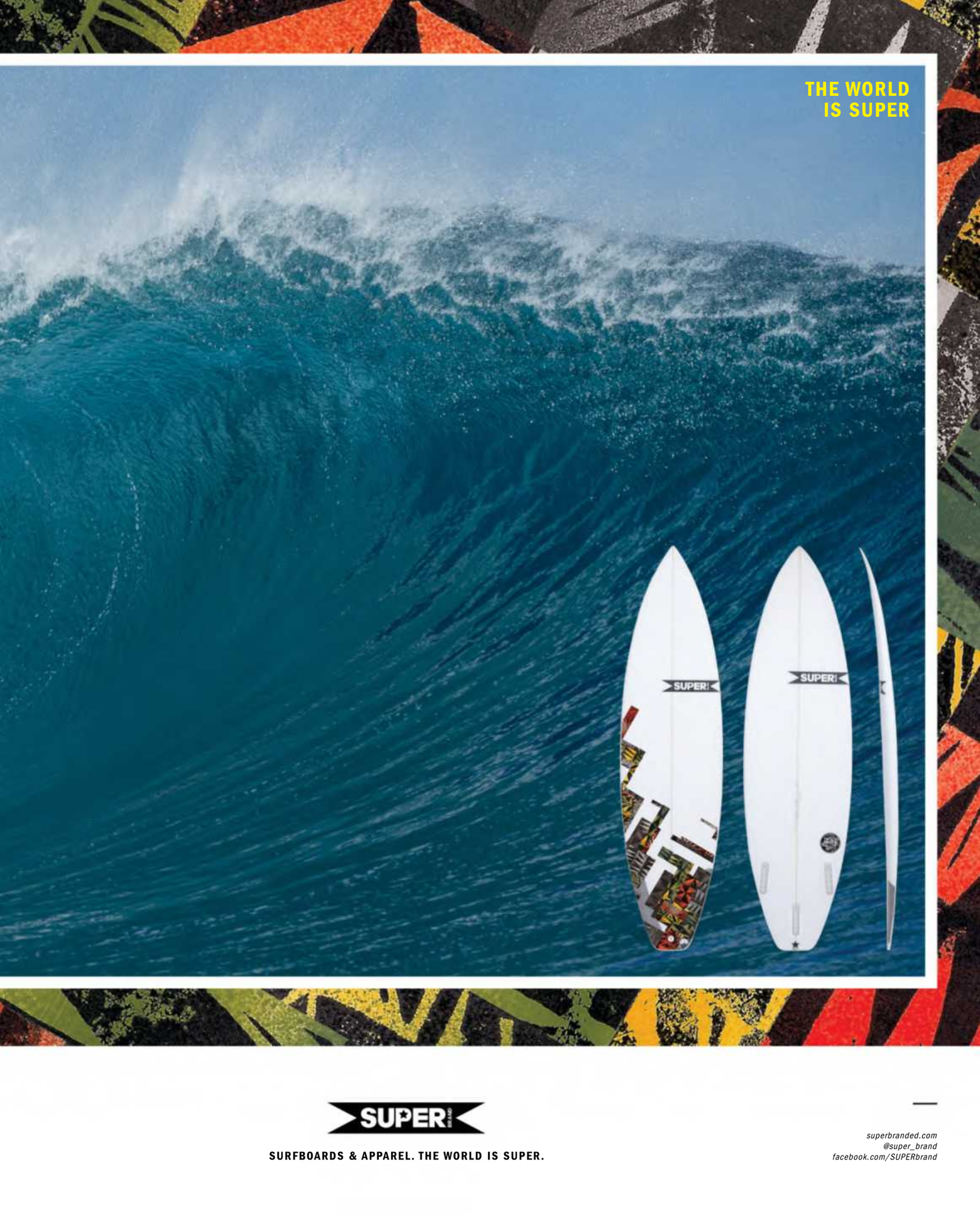

DHD
REEF
RedBull

Introducing The Clay Marzo
'Mad Cat' Pro Model



2015 SIMA SURFBOARD
OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

CLAY MARZO'S MAD CAT
Art by Gregg Kaplan / Plate Lunch
@platelunchspecial



SUPER

SURFBOARDS & APPAREL. THE WORLD IS SUPER.

superbranded.com
@super_brand
facebook.com/SUPERbrand



JOHNJOHNFLORENCE
SIGNATURE

FULL SIZE RANGE

GROM JOHN
(34-53 kg)
6.1



SMALL JOHN
(48-70 kg)
3.7



JOHN JOHN
(65-88 kg)
4.5



LARGE JOHN
(80+ kg)
3.8



FUTURESFINS.COM



NICK CARROLL

SPACE

DEMONSTRATION BY JACOB WILCOX, SEARCHING WITH RIP CURL IN INDONESIA
SEQUENCE BY ANDREW SHIELD

NO, I DON'T MEAN FUCKEN MARS. I MEAN SPACE. CONTEXT. ENVIRONMENT. SURROUNDINGS. So obviously essential to our understanding of how to ride a wave, yet so infrequently observed in the blizzard of taut, tense, sexy surf imagery cascading across the digital entertainment arena, where the world's only ever as big as the screen. But we digress don't we.

Here's another way to think about space: as a product of focus. Broad and narrow focus, to be precise. A great deal has been written and observed about the human ability to engage in both or either, particularly when involved in sport or other physical movement. When in narrow focus, the human mind exists intently in the moment, noting tiny shifts and changes in the body and in the immediate surroundings so purely that time itself appears to slow, while events beyond a small radius go pretty much completely unnoticed. When in broad focus, the mind opens up to the middle distance and begins to see itself in relation to other people and objects; a sense of the wider world is present.

Most of us are thrown naturally one way or another. We have an instinctive tendency toward broad or narrow focus, the same way as our bodies are thrown naturally toward fast or slow twitch muscle fibre, toward power or endurance, toward goofy or natural. (Well not quite like that last one. But we digress again hey.)

Yet almost everything we're encouraged to consider in relation to "good surfing" is of the one kind: fast-twitch. Closed in on the move and the moment — clenched in that tiny phone screen — held in a single shrunken space.

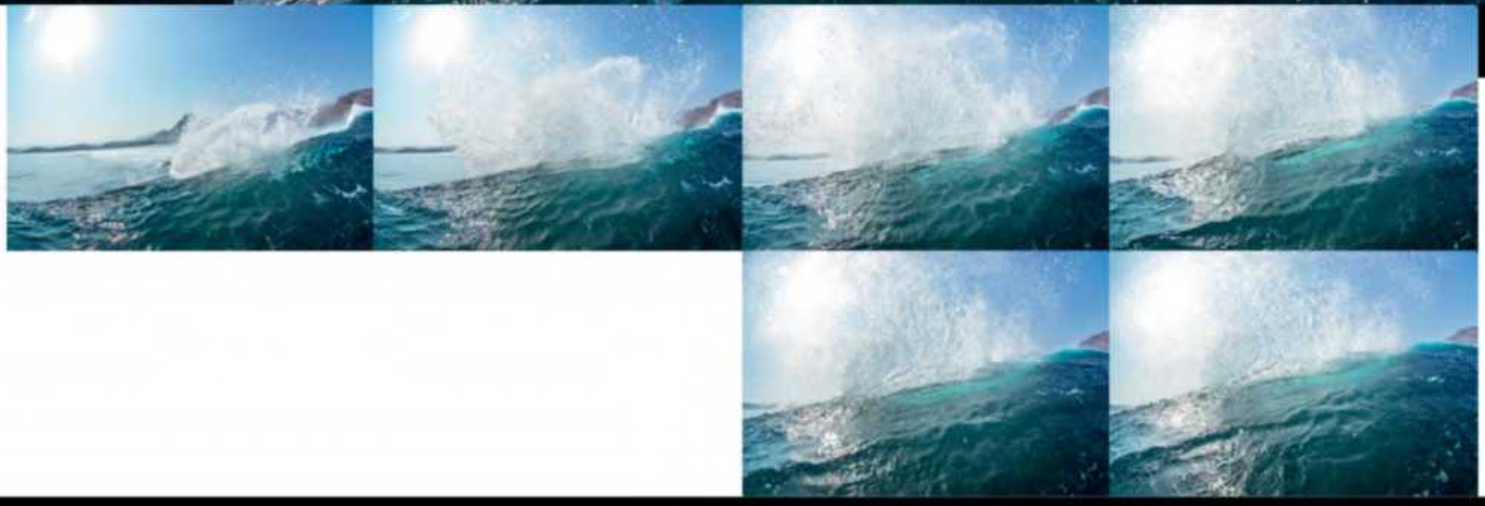
Fast-twitch is powerful. But does it endure? Let's have a look at this very fluid piece of movement from Jacob, and see what we can see.

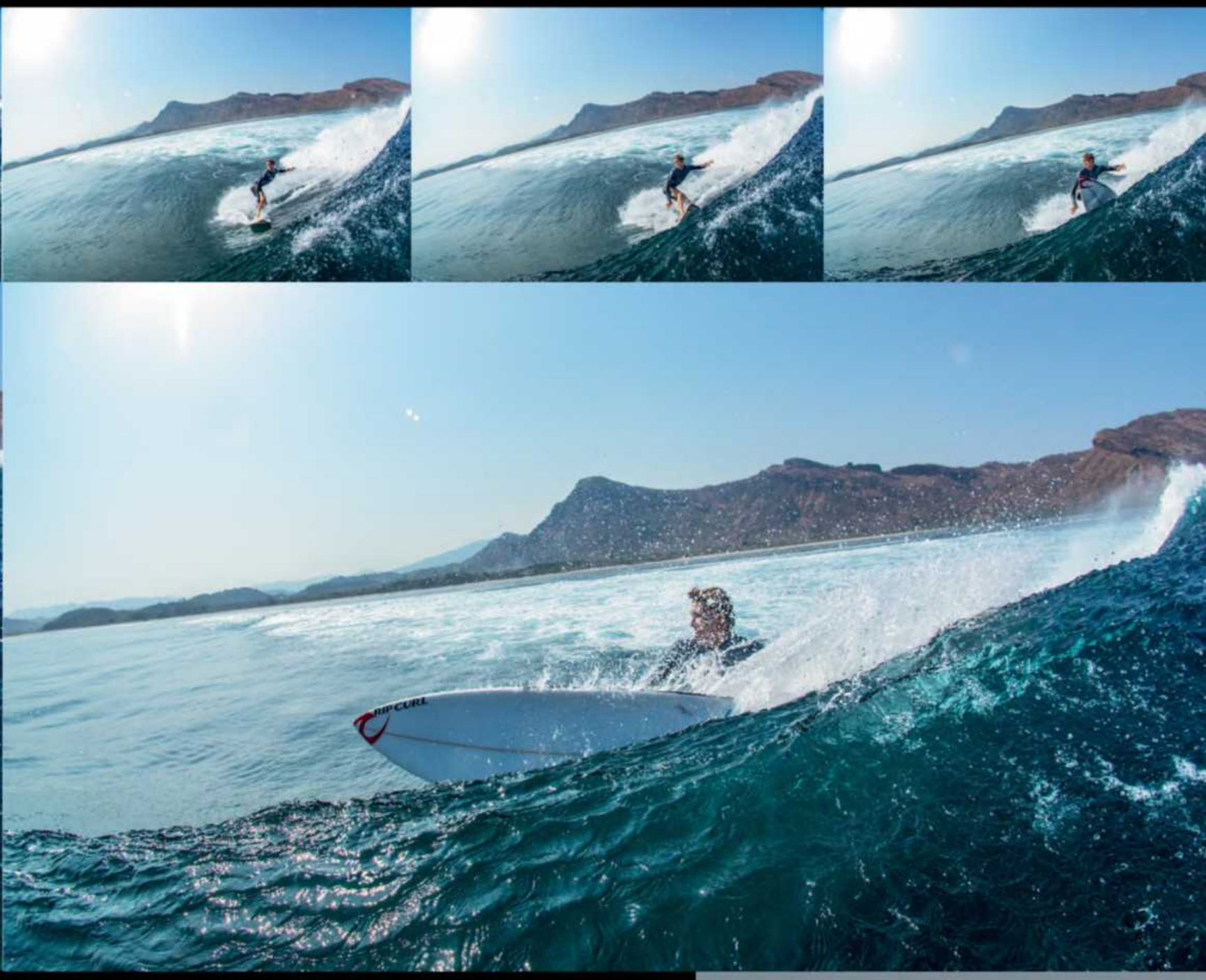


THE LESSON

You gotta know where you've come from and where you're going. Without that sense of a wider space around you, what you're doing right then, on the spot, doesn't make sense at all. One of the formative learning processes for most good and great surfers, as for athletes and deeply skilled people of all kinds, lies in figuring out which is your natural focal length — broad or narrow? — then developing the one you're missing. Think on it, work on it. The narrow focus will get you through the late drops and the crazy moments; the broad focus will help you see the whole wave from the start. The narrow is the small space, the broad is out to the horizon. Learn to use both, and all of that space will be yours.







THE BREAKDOWN

This is a wave with a lot of room to move. You can see that straight away, in the very first shot: the hills off in the distance, the lengthy whitewater line tailing down the reef, and the way in which that whitewater is dissipating into some sorta minor channel off in the right background. You can see it even in Jacob's stance here, into shots two and three: open and elongated, lifting and taking pressure off the bottom turn, so the board can run out of the turn and up the face with some projection.

Shot four is critical, though it doesn't look like it. We're trained to think of the peak moments of a ride as being the critical ones, the stuff to watch above all else. But here, it's a moment of transition. Jacob's out of the bottom turn and happy with the angle he's created toward the lip line. Now watch his eyes: they've shifted from where he's going, to a place a little further down the line, a place he is interested in ending up. He's opened up his focus. And look what it does to the turn in the ensuing images. Jacob's board rolls just enough on to the right rail that combined with the curve of the wave as it begins to pitch, he re-directs and connects with where he wants to go.

Which, by the way, isn't quite where he was looking; the extended fingers and turn angle itself tells us this evolved into a layback style snap. Yet that's exactly the kind of adjustment you'd expect from a surfer whose focus has broadened out — knowing there's a lot of wave ahead, knowing something about the oncoming section that tells him he has a little time to burn here — and thus changes his approach to the narrow-focused moment.

That's what we're seeing in this sequence. The shift of focal length. The use of slow and fast twitch in unison. All the space available.



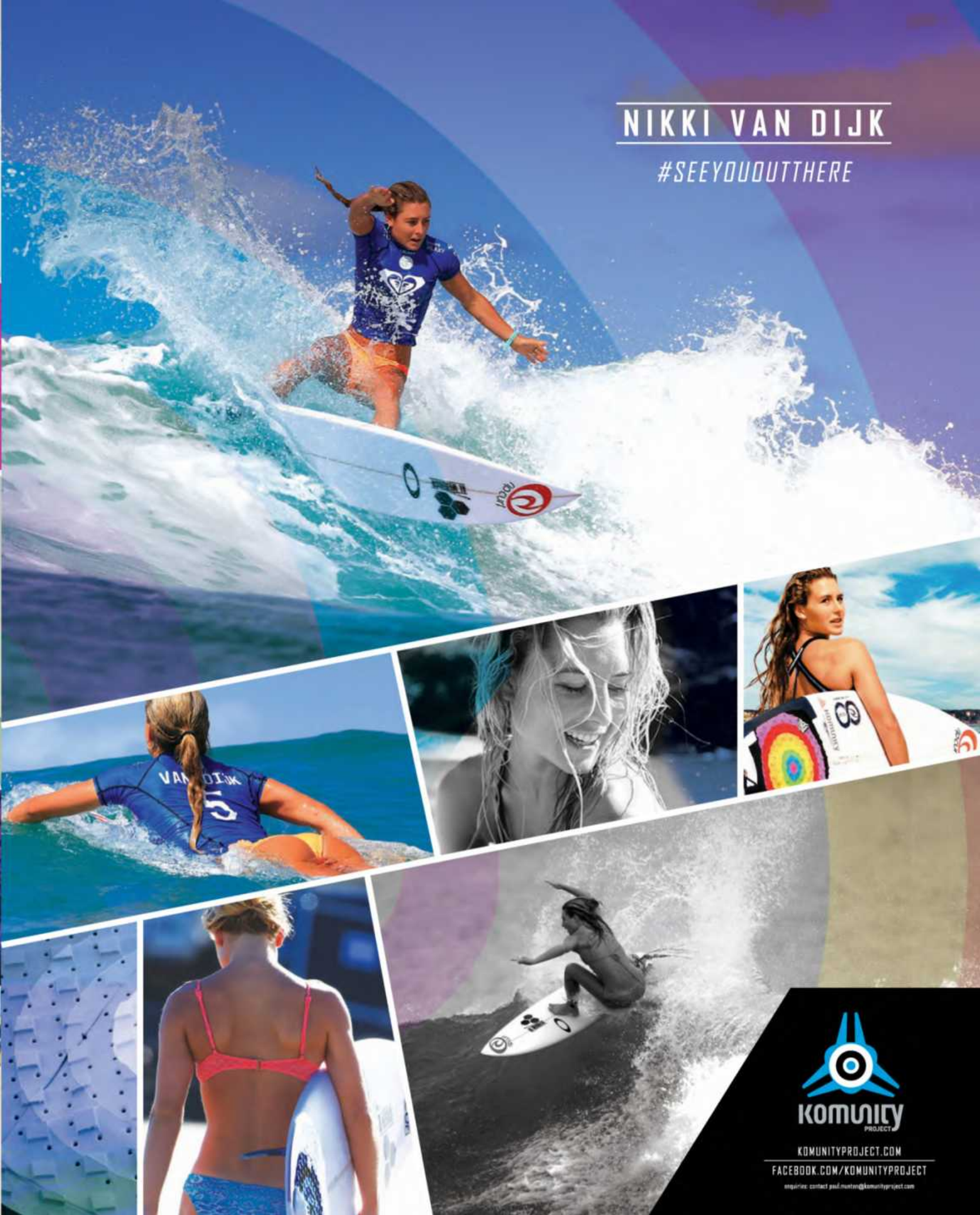









komunity
NVD3.0
komunity
NVD3.0


NIKKI VAN DIJK
#SEEYOUOUTTHERE
KOMUNITY
PROJECT
KOMUNITYPROJECT.COM
FACEBOOK.COM/KOMUNITYPROJECT

CREATIVE RESURRECTION

FREESURFING'S LAZARUS ON LIVING SOFTLY AND SURFING LOUD

WADE DAVIS



PHOTO:ANDREW SHIELD



Bangalow was the last place I expected to meet Wade Goodall.

Bangalow, of mellow, rolling hills and seachange boomer babies, potpourri farms and organic free-range farts. But this is where Wade, partner Jane, and daughter Violet call home, in a typical Northern Rivers shack, not far from the main drag. The move was natural for where Wade is now, grown up, a dad even, and the perfect place to nurse his seemingly endless injuries; perhaps the place to fade into some kind of freesurfing memory, an eternal, *Remember Wade, gee he was something else, back in the day*.

Alas, but no. Wade Goodall wasn't ready to fade into our memories, he wasn't yet done with the whole freesurfing thing. The injuries have been bad, and read like Knievel's wrap sheet – 2011's compound tibia-fibular-ankle fracture, 2013's femur, and this March's tibia – enough for any lesser man to hang it all up and say, *Y'know, that was a good run*, while winding out one's days sipping Passion Pop on the front porch.

Not Wade. Wade's latest break is on the mend, so much so that a week before I met him he was ducking under sizeable P-Pass. All indicators suggested that Wade Goodall, at times one of the world's best aerialist and freesurfers, was sneaking under the radar on his way back. This was going to require a drive to the Byron Hinterland and a couple of cappuccinos with Wade, in jeans and Vans, softly spoken, matted hair begetting natural dreads, incredibly polite and seemingly one of the locals now – the infamous metal head and ratbag greeting the potpourri-purchasing nouveau beatniks with, *Hey Keith, how are you, good to see you*. I felt like I'd fallen through the looking glass.

"My injuries have sucked, basically, but I'm fortunate enough to have healed up each time. It seems like I get to a certain point where I'm happy with the way I'm surfing again, where I'm able to plan some projects or do the things that I want to do, and then it happens again and I'm injured and back to square one.

"They were never the same injury, but different ones each time. Different bones, different legs, different circumstances, really – it's not like I've got a weak point; I'm either unlucky, or I just put myself in bad situations. I'm way more aware that this stuff happens now, but I'm really sick of it, so sick of it. I just want to have a year without breaking my leg."

P-Pass, November, 2015. Welcome back, Wade.
PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD



"Freesurfing isn't just disliking competing, it's wanting to push surfing in the direction that we choose."

But Wade wasn't put here to release macabre tragedies about unfortunate leg bones. Wade surfs and we watch him do it. That's how the world works. But broken bones aren't conducive for high-powered shredding, and with his money makers out of action, while waves of wannabes jumped and snapped at his heels, Wade faced the prospect of having to chuck it all in.

"I'm 29 now. I feel like I've had a lot of wasted time. I'm at a period where I feel like I've matured enough with my surfing. Before the injuries I was happy with the way I rode a wave, more than when I was younger. So here I am with this love for surfing and I can't do it. I felt like, because of injury, I was missing out on a lot of stuff.

"And that gave me fuel to go and train, to get better.

"Throughout it all there wasn't an overall, definite silver lining. I was freed up to think about other things outside of surfing, and realised what I appreciate. I spent a lot of time with my young family, and due to my leg breaks I've been there for most of my daughter's life. That's a blessing. It was good to learn that even though the injuries were severe, I could heal and get better after traumatic things with my body. Injury, sickness – nothing's definite, you can get better. Overall in life being injured has made me healthier."

People think that life events are the catalysts to growing up. That those who don't partner up, have kids, get a mortgage, and so on, are doomed to a life lived as a wildcat; a dangerous young buck with a shortened lifespan. Wade tells, however, a story about the inevitability of personal change, of growing up and mellowing out. He has been in front of us for a while; we should have seen the change coming.

"We made *Passion Pop*, which was kinda my profile movie, it was all about this lame little shuvit that I was doing. Dean Brady actually named it, I didn't have a name for this little shuvit. At the time we were drinking a lot of PP – we used to punish that stuff – it was $3 a bottle and we used to buy shitloads of it and have so much fun. And then that escalated into calling the movie *Passion Pop* and having me as this ratty, weird kid, trying to intro everybody. It was pretty funny. There was definitely some good hype around a shuvit.

"Then Dion [Agius] started the whole video blog thing. I was a little behind with *Creative Destruction*, but the main thing with both our stuff, Dion's and mine, was that we were allowed a budget. A lot of people were doing online stuff, but nobody had the backing like Dion and I did, to put stuff out on the scale we did. We had more opportunity, and I think that's the only reason why *Creative Destruction* was so successful, because we, Jake Donlen from Runamuck Visuals and I, had Billabong's backing to do cool stuff. I don't really feel like I was on the forefront; it happened and I was in the right place at the right time with the right help.

"There was a metal theme through a lot of the stuff that I did, because I kinda want my life to have a metal theme. The majority of my teenage years were spent listening to metal and hardcore. Through *Creative Destruction* we got to have that as an underlying theme, but you do have to tone it down to a certain degree. I mean, I'm realistic in what I like compared to what the majority of people will like. I don't want to force my things onto you and expect everyone to be stoked. So it was like half things we really loved and half trying to

Between breaks, not letting them hold him back, surfing hard and fast.
PHOTO: DAN RUSSO


ZOMBIE TREAD
VANS



Laid out at P-Pass, working on those turns.
PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD

"Big waves are epic! So fun. Airs are amazing! Turns are... I'm working on turns at the moment.

they were like, *We'll work on something*, and it ended up happening. It was such a blessing at the time.

"By that stage the Sunshine Coast and Caloundra were getting developed to Gold Coast levels – houses all the way back to the highway, cheaper housing – and there wasn't the infrastructure to support it down by the beaches. It got to the point where I couldn't get a park down at my local, and the quality of waves wasn't worth that. I decided that it's time to move on, and that's when I moved down to Bangalow. The change of location has been great for wave choice, and my surfing was changing due to the waves that are around, as well as working with different people.

"Then I broke my leg again. The difference is that now I know I can heal and I'm grateful for the opportunities I have in front of me. From sitting on the couch with a broken leg, off your head on whatever pain relief you have, to actually being at P-Pass last month. I appreciate it all now, because I've been through it."

In surfing, Mick Fanning's recovery, and the physical improvement that resulted from it, is the oft-rolled-out example of what's possible when surfers injure themselves. To the uninitiated, Mick returned from injury fitter, faster, stronger and more focused, and went on to win three (four) World Titles. But when we talk to freesurfers about Mick, the conversation invariably turns to contest surfing, and the difference between comps and clips.

"With guys like Mick, it's different. He performs in different ways than freesurfers do. Mick came back super strong, but he can perform at 80 per cent, or whatever he applies to his contest surfing, and doesn't have to push it like freesurfers. Freesurfing isn't just disliking competing, it's wanting to push surfing in the direction that we choose. We try things and it doesn't matter if we land or not. Healing as a freesurfer is harder because you want to get back to your best, to a point where you're trying things that you haven't done yet. Things that nobody has done. Coming back from injury and getting to that spot is difficult. Freesurfers kinda should be giving 100 per cent no matter what, I mean, what else do you have to do?

"From a viewer's perspective, freesurfing is more competitive than contest surfing, because the audience wants to see people do the craziest stuff. There are a lot of different guys battling with their videos; in that way it's super competitive, it's just a different kind of competition. You don't get the feeling of trying to beat, or being beaten – it's more like a creative competition, if anything.



V F A B M

coming soon

NIXON

JOHN JOHN FLORENCE

CAPSULE COLLECTION

Essential for the journey. Working hand-in-hand with John John Florence, this curated collection features a thoughtfully designed camera bag meant for life on the road, a microfiber towel and the world's thinnest full feature digital watch, the Comp.

JJF Camera Bag - The Comp - JJF Towel

nixon.com



In Northern NSW they like to embrace the golden hour. Namaste.
PHOTO: DUNCAN MACFARLANE



"Freesurfers kinda should be giving 100 per cent no matter what. I mean, what else do you have to do?"

"In contests you lose, and you lost, and it's clear, because some people told you that you lost. When you're making a film it's up against other people's creations. You made the film that you thought was cool and wanted to make, and if someone's film was better, or someone surfed better, you usually just appreciate it. You don't really go, *Damn I wish I could have done that.* I feel like that's healthy competition. I know that sometimes I see people do things that are so good, crazy, way better than anything that I could do, and I don't get bummed like I would if I lost a heat. It's more motivating than anything – I want to get out there and do it. You've just got to be happy with what you've made and motivated by what else is out there. And usually, by the time of release, you're already over that project, and moved on to the next one. It's not really something that I dwell on. It's just the process."

So here we are in a Bangalow coffee shop with the calmest, nicest guy in the Byron Hills – an area renowned for calm, nice guys – and I can't help but wonder whether Wade's next project will be? Fins free, riding baby whales, maybe waxing up with the potpourri that seems to emanate from this town's pores? Truth is, the more things change, the more they stay the same.

"We all evolve differently through the stages of our life, and I think as a surfer, with complete control over your image and output, like I have, your personality will translate through whatever you agree to do or release. There's nothing forced; if you have the chance to create you create a reflection of what you're into. I haven't gotten to a stage where I said, *That's not really cool, I'm going to try something else*, that was all just internal. Your personality will show without you trying to show it.

"A major part of being a young sponsored kid was the brands wanting people to learn who you are, then they can connect with you because they like you. Once you get to a certain point, it's like, if you don't know me already you don't have to watch my stuff, or just come and say hi, there's no real need to put that personality stuff in there anymore, because that will just come through anyway. In that way the media reflects life. When you're young you're yelling at the world from your car window, being a dickhead and kicking bins over, and when you're older you're more comfortable in yourself and you don't have to scream from the rooftops.

"Now that I've moved to Bangalow and grown up, maybe my media will reflect this change of pace, but me as a person doesn't really translate to how I surf. I still want to go really fast and do really big jumps and get smashed and all that shit, because that's what feels best to me. That's the one thing in my surfing that I've always done – focus on what feels the best, so that's just how I've always surfed. If it didn't feel incredible when you landed it, or a good tube, or whatever, I wouldn't be into it. I just didn't get the same feeling out of a reo. I thought it





Goodall's famous tail high kicks; please don't stop the hits. PHOTO: DAN RUSSO

PHOTOS: DUNCAN MACFARLANE



PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD





was 'filler'. I'd rather save my energy to try something that'd give me a good release. That's the way I surfed and it'll be the way I always surf, just trying to do what feels best to me."

Hard and fast Goodall, the Goodall that we came to know, the Goodall we want. But here he is re-entering the freesurfing landscape at a time that is rather different to when his injuries prompted a hiatus. The arms race that Wade was a part of has driven this wing of the sport beyond what was conceivably possible around the time of *Passion Pop*. Now, more than ever, relevance is difficult to obtain.

"The stuff people are doing now is beyond me. The stuff that John [Florence] and Matt Meola, everyone, can do, man. Their talent is next level; they're incredible. I've never been a front-runner, really, I've never been anything too special. I've always just wanted to put out something great, and I felt like I was getting to the point in my surfing where I was able to put out something great, and then I hurt myself again. I want, at the end of it all, to have a part that I'm really stoked on, and I haven't got that yet.

"There are so many different things that stoke me on a part, but above all every wave has to look fun. It's not just doing the craziest airs ever; if every wave looks fun, that gets me excited, that makes me want to go and surf.

(But that massive slab stuff that you do doesn't really look fun…)

"I know, but it is! A full-rounded part would be awesome. I really appreciate the approach of guys like John, Matt and Albee [Layer], they're complete surfers. That's what I've learnt over the years – with my injuries at certain points when I couldn't do airs because my legs weren't fit – I delved into other aspects of surfing, and that really made me excited and I loved all different sides of it. Those guys are the poster children of well-rounded surfing.

Having some "fun" down at Shipsterns.
PHOTO: ANDREW CHISHOLM





Spinning at the speed of now... and then.
PHOTO: DUNCAN MACFARLANE

"Big waves are epic! So fun. Airs are amazing! Turns are… I'm working on turns at the moment.

"Back in the day there used to be 'air guys', but airs were so new so it was exciting enough to just do them and nothing else. Not many people were doing them, but now there are 12-year-old kids who can do airs, really good airs, it's not as impressive an attribute anymore. So it naturally transitioned into all-roundedness because, like it or not, a lot of people do get pigeonholed because it is hard for them to do other things. Being able to master many different aspects of surfing is impressive.

"For me, the big wave thing came about when I got the opportunity. We're creatures of our environment, so it wasn't natural for me to be good at big waves coming from the Sunny Coast, and I was only able to give it a go because the opportunities arose. I think that's what's happening with guys like Noa [Deane] now, you just get this feeling that it's something that you want to try, and then the opportunity arises and you give it a go. For someone like Noa, who's an incredible talent, he'll be able to read waves when it comes to gnarly situations. I don't doubt that thousands of surfers could do those things, skill-wise, it just comes down to wanting to try it out and accepting that things can go wrong.

"It was mainly through Laurie [Towner] and Dylan Longbottom's support that I got into it. I always wanted to take on big waves, but I've never been the most confident person. They instilled in me that I could do it. Laurie was always like, *You can read waves, you can surf these waves, no worries*, and I just started going with him, and then Dylan got busy with his shaping, and I got the opportunity to be Laurie's tow partner for that year. We got those big Shippies and Chopes swells, and then we both got dropped by Billabong… haha, it was a good last year.

"Shippies was the first time that I've towed in properly, one-on-one with a tow partner like that. I was straight in the deep end and I didn't know how to do the step properly; I just didn't know what I was doing. On one wave I remember Kelly Slater's boat rocking up and just losing it on the take off, and I swear I could see Kelly on his boat while I was bodysurfing on this wave, getting whipped, and I remember being underwater and thinking that I've never gone that fast, like a torpedo, and thinking how lucky I was that I didn't hit anything. That was Mach 10 underwater, it was really serious.

"On another one I was trying to air the step, and I didn't realise that I was doing it wrong when I kept on trying to ollie down it. I was lifting my nose up and it was putting me in a bad position to land, when all I needed to do was absorb the step with my knees, like skiing a mogul or something. Instead, I caught a heel edge, and was right in front of the lip – so close that I felt it scrape my hair before it hit the tail of my board. I've never been shot up so high! I got smashed on 75 per cent of my waves, but those two were the most unique experiences. I've never flipped through the air for four seconds before, in front of the wave, and that was the real realisation that I am very insignificant through all this, so it's best if I try and pay attention a little more."

Whether it was as a creatively destructive youth, or a more chilled out fatherhood, Wade is going to be an innovator and an influencer

3DFINS

AMBASSADOR OF INNOVATION

DARKSIDE
CARBON SERIES

JOSH KERR
"You will feel the difference"

WISEOWL



YINGYANG FISH



LIONHEAD



BIGMOUTH



DIMPLE
TECHNOLOGY™
PROVEN
INNOVATION

Christian Fletcher

SIGNATURE QUAD MODEL AVAILABLE NOW Visit www.3dfins.com

MORE SPEED MORE DRIVE

* ALL FINS AVAILABLE IN TWIN TAB AND FULL BASE


NATHAN STROM
SURFS ALL DAY...
IN & OUT OF THE WATER.
photos: budro
WE MAKE FUN
sector 9
SKATEBOARD CO.
SIDEWINDER SERIES
BARRA SOAP
THEY AREN'T TRUCKS.
THEY'RE CONCRETE FINS!
#wemakefun



This is where the creative resurrection begins.
PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD

at the hard edge of surfing's progression, for as long as he physically can give it the 100 per cent that keeps him in the game. He's 29 now, by no means over the hill, but perhaps on the far side of whippersnapper, still focused on surfing hard, having fun, and hopefully creating his opus; something that he can look back on and feel like he played his part in surfing's evolution. Wade's story is one where the protagonist goes through multiple changes, both organically and through overcoming adversity, but stays true to one central theme, one important base personality trait – surfing hard, and fast, and turning it up to 11. While Wade's personality may seem different from the outside, while he may be the mellow man around Bangalow, a dad, his surfing is one area where the young Wade, the Passion Pop-swilling kid, the animal, the ratbag, can continue to exist.

"I'm pretty close to doing airs again; I reckon by the start of next year I'll be good to go. This trip to P-Pass was pretty cool, because my leg didn't hurt at all and I felt really confident on it. I mean, there were no airs involved, but that's the final link that I'm working on now. Once the leg is good I'll go back to doing what I was doing before I hurt myself, which I thought was a really good place for my surfing. Then I'll work really hard on the Vans team movie – I really want to have a good showing in that – as well as make the most out of opportunities that I'm offered. I appreciate it more now. No one has perfect ideas all the time, and doors are constantly opening and closing, but now no one really knows that I'm surfing again, so I'll start getting out there again and hopefully the doors will open. But the main thing is working hard on the Vans movie, and on being a good dad.

"If I could give my younger self some advice, it would definitely be about some of the clothing choices I made. I mean, I get super embarrassed about my youth and some of the stuff that I did, but I'm pretty sure everyone looks back and cringes. At the time I was having a great time through most of it. I mean, there were some hard times, but I think that at certain points in my teenage years where I took shit way too seriously, and I was totally unaware of the real world and what was actually going on, and I was pretty selfish and cruel and unhappy, and I think that was something I would definitely change. Just concentrate on being happy and chasing those things that you are interested in, because if you are lazy and do nothing in those years, well, that's when you are at your most creative and really have the ability to make some crazy things happen. If I was young again I would definitely try and explore a lot more and progress in those years when I was just chilling."

Potpourri with a metal edge. Let the creative resurrection begin

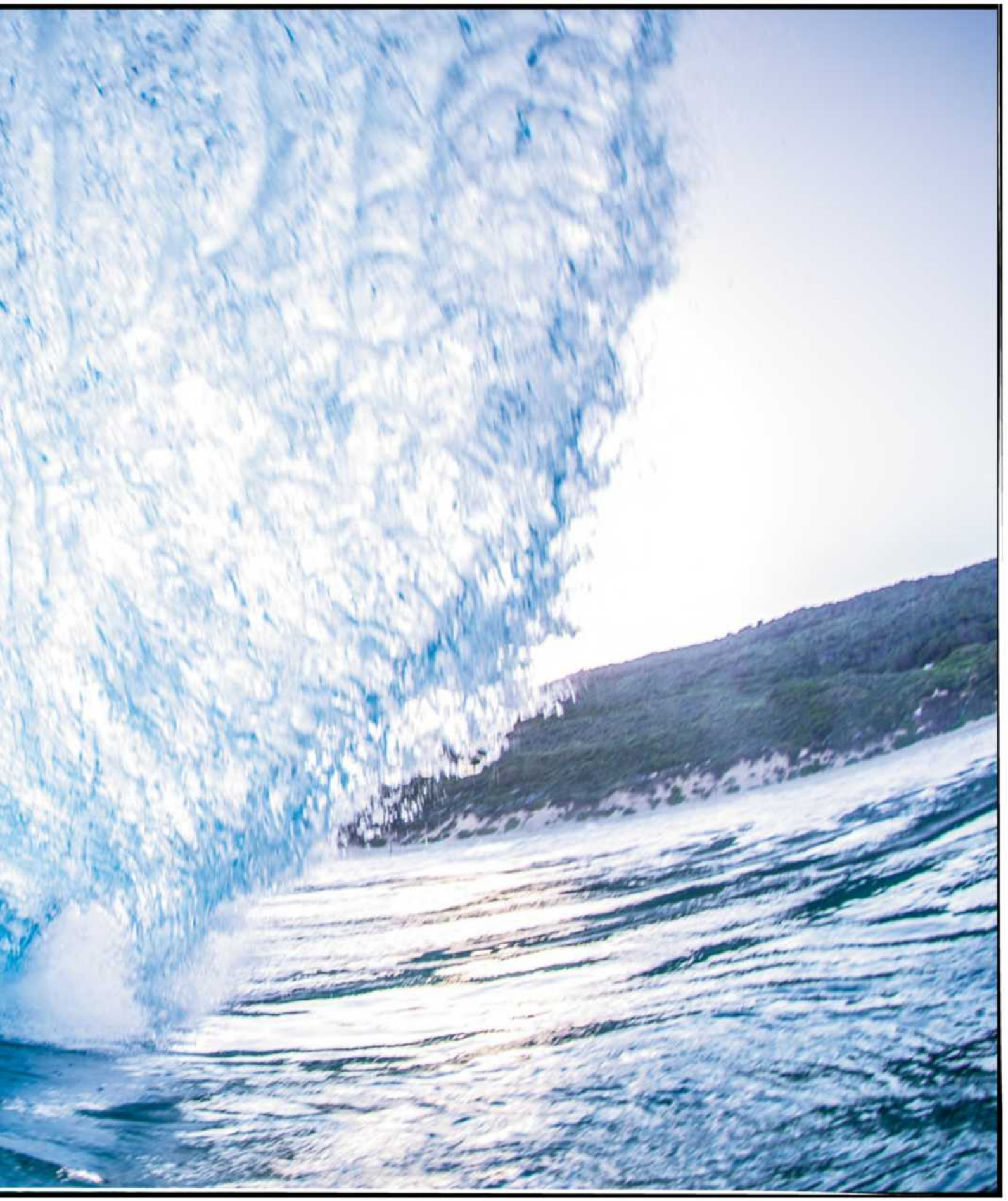

ROKKIE



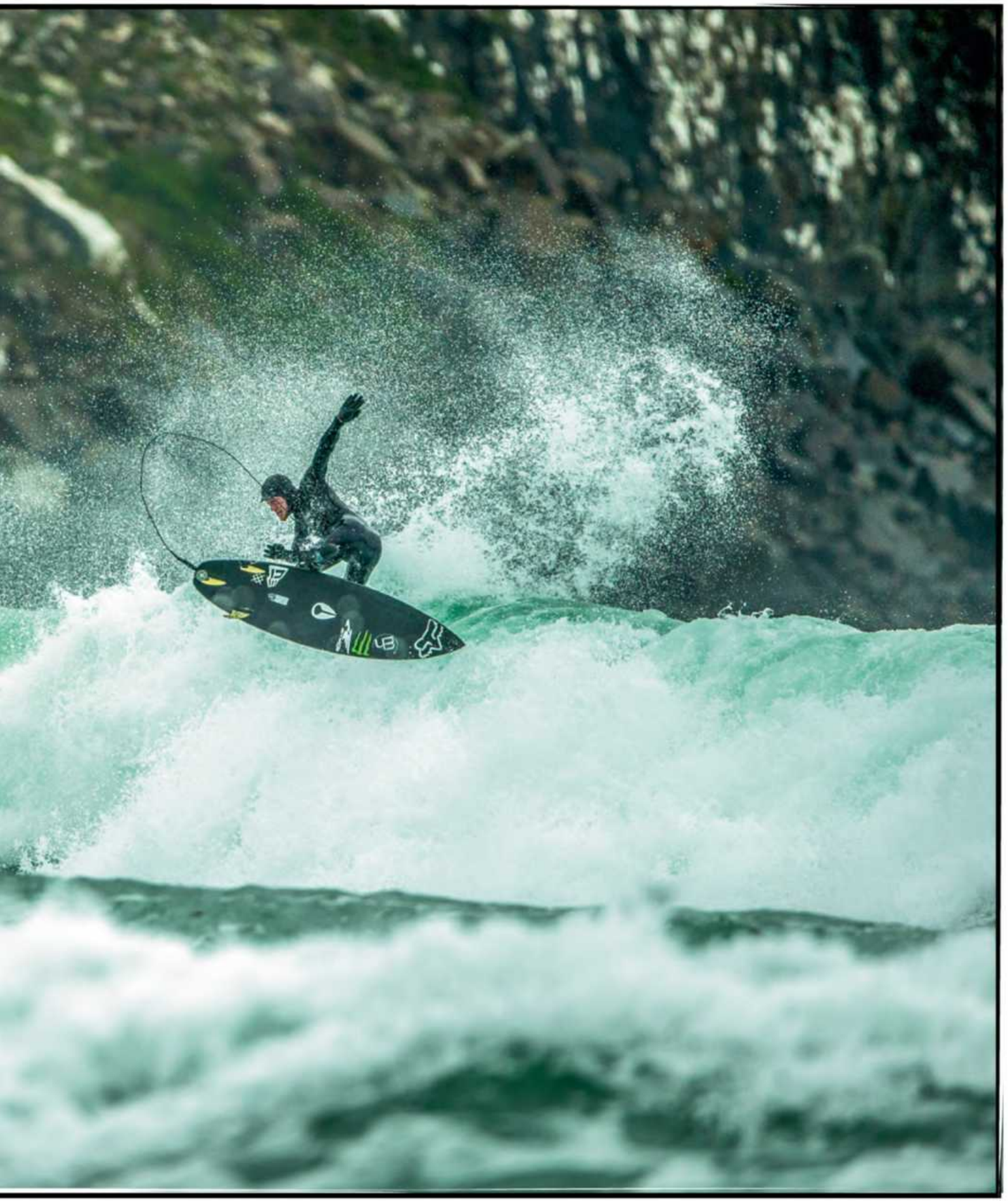
Hey, you. Yeah, you!

The one pinching and sliding and squinting like a damn fool. Get the hell off your phone! It's not going to regale your eyeballs with the finest of surf imagery. But we will, right here. No words, just pictures given the space they deserve. That little device, still sitting in your lap, begging for your attention... yeah, its useful; XNXX, maybe, surf-checks, sure, Tinder, definitely. But surf-imagery? Give us a break. It's the printed form or nothing. Take a moment. Take a few. Consider and appreciate. Because in a world of alerts, notifications, messages and emails, it's nice to take the time.
















VA
RVCA





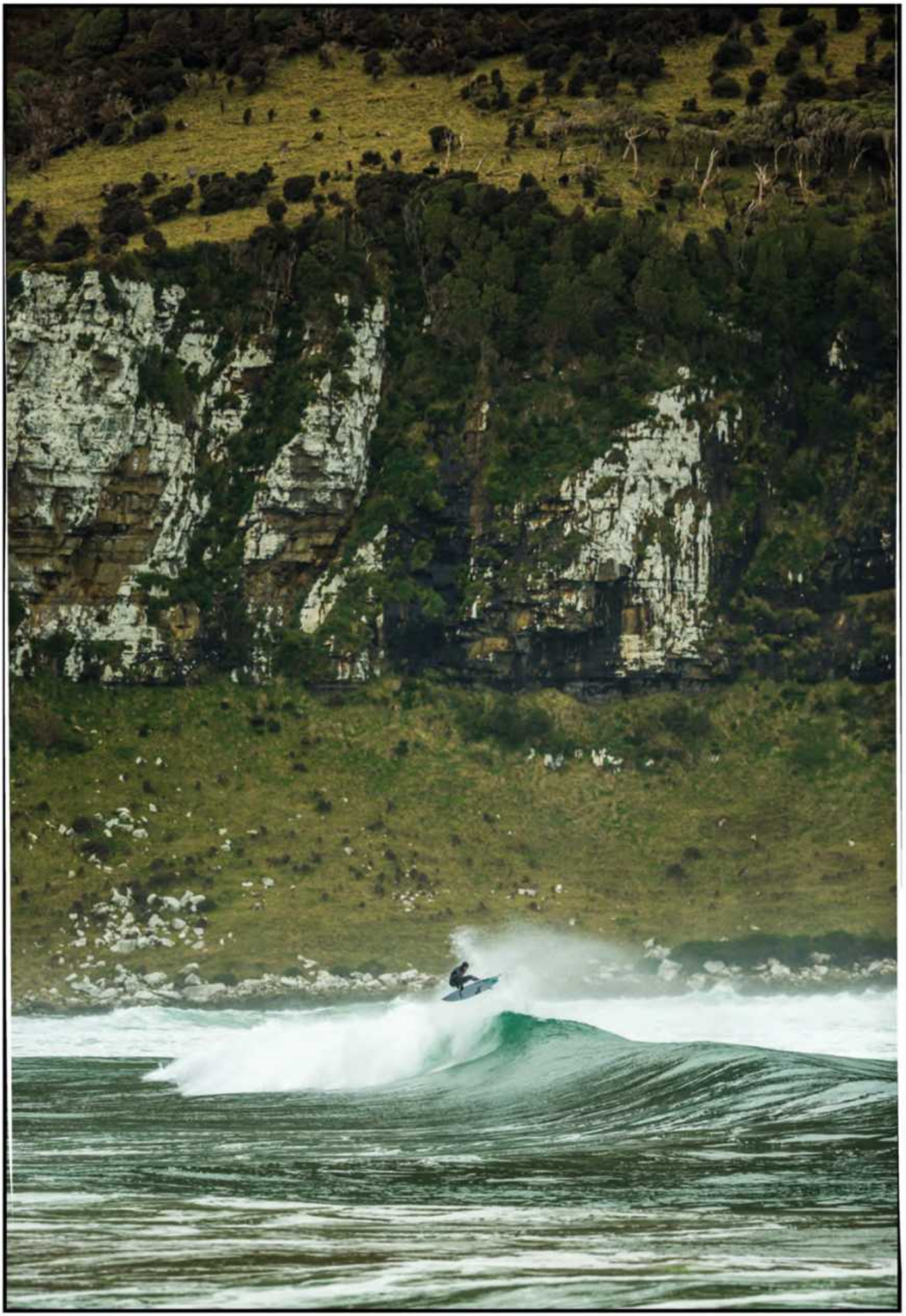




SURFING AUSTRALIA · ORIGINAL SOURCE · TOYOTA · Nikon · OAKLEY · WSL

XXXX Summer Bright Lager · You won't miss a moment if you DrinkWise. · Milwaukee · FCS · SURFING LIFE · boost mobile · FOX SPORTS · Sutherland Shire COUNCIL · NSW MAKING IT HAPPEN · Destination NSW

www.australianboardridersbattle.com





METHOD MADNESS

Dion Agius backscratching his way to infinity and beyond.

PHOTO:
John Respondek



HAPPY PAPPY

Taj Burrow adds this tube and being a dad to his ever growing list of reasons to be stoked.

PHOTO:
John Respondek



SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

Chippa Wilson begs his neoprene to twist with him, far south South Island, New Zealand.

PHOTO:
Matt O'Brien



TRANSFORMING

Harry Bryant shooting through a funnel of Optimus Prime's piss.

PHOTO:
Andrew Shield



DROPPED KNEE

Haz bringing back the forgotten boogieboard discipline.

PHOTO:
Andrew Shield



MR BENNETTS

A Balinese villa, DJ career, model girlfriend, and tubes like this make Adam Bennetts life a very charmed affair.

PHOTO:
Diego D'orey



DION'S DISCO

Everybody was kung-fu surfing.

PHOTO:
John Respondek



SOZ SOUTH OZ

Hardened locals appraise the line-up, quietly stoked that Northern NSW has taken their unwanted title from them.

PHOTO:
Alex Heather



COLD BLUE STEEL

Eli Steele, South Island New Zealand, frigid slob.

PHOTO:
Matt O'Brien

RAPTOR

OUT NOW



BRAND NEW SUMMER MODEL, OUT NOW.
FIND OUT MORE AT
JRSURFBOARDS.COM.AU

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR #JRNAMETHIS WINNER
@TYLERGARETHEGREY

NEW ZIPPERLESS TAPED SEAM HYPERDRY



"I mean it when I say the guys at Adrenalin have nailed the Hyperdry. Not only is it zipperless, it has taped and sealed seams! And the superstretch neoprene really is the best quality. I'm not sure how they have managed all of this for the price!"

Jason Livingston
Current and Past Australian Longboard Champion

"No Zip... nailed it"



HYPERDRY Zip-Free Steamer

Taped Seams

- Zipperless Entry
- Taped Sealed Seams
- 100% 2/2 Superstretch
- Heat Shield with Micro Plush
- Flatlocked Stitching
- Reinforced Hard-Ass Knee Pads

Adult

$269.95 RRP

Hyperdry No Zip
Sizes XS to 3XL

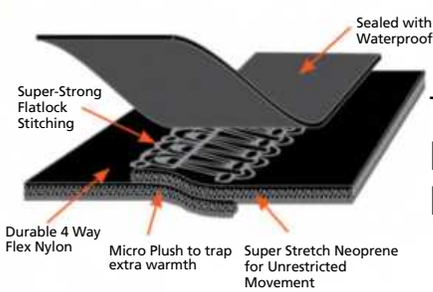


ADRENALIN
AUSTRALIA Since 1994

www.adrenalinwetsuits.com
Hotline 1800 226 328

The only wetsuits to have a
LIFETIME WARRANTY

The new unique Hyperdry seam



The only TAPED SEAM, FLATLOCK STICHED, NON ZIP WETSUIT

See over page for your nearest preferred Adrenalin Dealer

Driven by *Performance*





NEW ZIPPERLESS FUZION

" I'm a daily surfer and over my 20 plus years of surfing I have worn many wetsuits and I have to say that this new range from Adrenalin are the comfiest & stretchiest suits I have ever worn. At a starting price of 130 bucks, there is nothing else out there to match these suits specifications and quality. I recommend you try one and see for yourself how good they are... you will be blown away! "

Brett Moore
Adrenalin Rider, Surf Sales Team and product tester

FUZION Zip-Free
Springsuit & Steamer

- Zipperless Entry
- 100% 3/2 Superstretch
- Heat Shield with MicroPlush
- Flatlocked Stitching
- Reinforced Hard-Ass Kneepads on Steamer



Fuzion No Zip Spring
Adult Sizes XS to 3XL

Adult
$159.95 RRP



Fuzion No Zip Spring
Junior Sizes 8 to 16

Junior
$129.95 RRP



Fuzion No Zip Steamer
Adult Sizes XS to 3XL

Adult
$199.95 RRP



Fuzion No Zip Steamer
Junior Sizes 8 to 16

Junior
$159.95 RRP

Driven by Performance

Adrenalin Zipperless FOUND HERE

ADRENALIN
AUSTRALIA Since 1994

www.adrenalinwetsuits.com
Hotline 1800 226 328

The only wetsuits to have a
LIFETIME WARRANTY

Supporting Your Local Surf Store



LRS Long Reef Surf

OPEN 7 DAYS

Long Reef Surf
1012 Pittwater Rd, Collaroy, NSW 2097
Ph (02) 9982 4829 (02) 9971 1212
sales@longreefsurf.com.au www.longreefsurf.com.au



OPEN 7 DAYS

SURF WORLD BONDI
150 CAMPBELL PARADE,
BONDI BEACH
Ph 02 9365 0502
drippingwetbondi@gmail.com



East End SURF · SCOOT · SKATE

34 King Street,
Newcastle NSW 2300
Ph: 02 4927 0277

OPEN 7 DAYS

www.eastendnewy.com.au

NSW



manlysurfboards

Wetsuit Specialist

Shop 3/49 North Steyne Road,
Manly, NSW 2095

Ph 02 9976 0591

info@manlysurfboards.com

QLD



29 Ipswich Rd,
Woolloongabba QLD 4102

p: 07 3391 8588

e: info@goodtime.com.au

www.goodtime.com.au

Visit us on Facebook

Open Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri: 9am-5pm
Thurs: 9am-6pm Sat: 9am-4pm Sun: 10am-3pm

VIC

Oceansuits Victoria

Your only Wetsuit destination

OCEANSUITS

For expert advice, genuine caring service on a fantastic ranges of wetsuits, drysuits and products for free-diving and Spearfishing.

Only Oceansuits can resize, alter and repair almost all wetsuits and drysuits.

That's right if you can't get a wetsuit or drysuit that fits you well... we are your people.

Excellent service, great prices.

The very best place to buy wetsuits either off the rack or sized to fit you perfectly... **wow!**



Factory 3 / 101 Wedgewood Rd
Hallam. Victoria 3803

P: 03 9702 4993

Visit us at:
www.oceansuits.com.au
or just email:
martin@oceansuits.com.au

NSW



Open Fri to Sun 10am to 3pm,
or by appointment

Suite 10, Ground Floor,
90 Mona Vale Road
Mona Vale, NSW 2103, Sydney

0414 716 988

www.soulsurf.com.au

QLD



DA BOMB SURF CENTRE

Da Bomb has been set up by Sharon & Nigel Jackson as a traditional surfshop by catering for the needs of the raw beginner right through to the experienced competitive surfboard rider including the surf enthusiast with the inclusion of a very informative Surf Museum

3/25 Plaza Parade, Maroochydore, Qld 4558
Ph 07 5451 0620
www.dabombsurf.com.au

Open – 7 days Mon to Sat 9 to 5, Sun 10 to 3

VIC



findsports

Great deals on surf, snow & outdoor gear!

4 Maxwell Street, Dandenong VIC 3175
(03) 9793 9588

www.findsports.com.au
Email: info@findboardsports.com.au

NSW



Anna Bay SBS Surf Bike Skate

Shop 1/150 Gan Gan Road,
Anna Bay, NSW 2316

02 4982 1790

annabaysbs@bigpond.com

OPEN 7 DAYS

SA



Not just a surf fashion store, a real surf store, offering the whole range of surf hardware that you may need on the day.
All you have to do is call in and we are there waiting to help you out.

PREECE`S SURF

159 Esplanade,
Port Noarlunga South, SA 5167

Ph 08 8386 0404

SINCE 1999

pspsurf@hotmail.com

(closed Christmas Day only)

OPEN 7 DAYS

WA

S.O.S SURF CO FREMANTLE



" ...everyone who works here Surfs, Kites, and SUPs"
"get out there"
John Geyer

SOS Surf Co.

305 South Terrace, South Fremantle
08 9430 7050
www.sossurf.com.au

Open: Mon to Fri 10-6 Sat 10-4 Sun 11-4

GAME CHANGER

NICK CARROLL
& MIMI LAMONTAGNE

"The only thing all attacks have in common is that a person and a shark are in the same place at the same time."

- John West, curator of the Australian Shark Attack File.

Yikes!
PHOTO: RICH PIXEL





Ground Zero: Lennox to Ballina. Just don't go surfing, they say, you're in the sharks' domain. Idiots.
PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD



RUMOUR 1

THE SHARKS DON'T HAVE ENOUGH FOOD, SO THEY'RE COMING FOR US.

Nah. They've got plenty. In fact, sea life off this coast has been undergoing a steady and in some cases spectacular revival in recent years. The revival began in the early 1960s with whaling bans. For over a century following white settlement, whaling was a mainstay of the NSW economy. By 1962, when bans were put in place, the whaling industry had long ceased to count for much, but it'd almost destroyed the migratory humpback population; from an estimated original 90,000, the humpbacks were down to around 700. Today, they're thought to number around 20,000, and their annual breeding migration between March and November, from the Southern Ocean up as far as Tonga and back, has become a significant tourist attraction. Subsequent restrictions on commercial fishing licences and the declaration of marine parks off the Australian coast has seen a return to growth of numerous fish species that take part in the annual migrations up and down the East Australian Current. All the big predatory shark species, including bulls, tigers and great whites, prey off this re-grown food source and off increasing numbers of dead whales that fall out of the migration, sometimes drifting back toward the coast in the process.

Between January and October 2015, the New South Wales coastline saw at least 14 unprovoked attacks by sharks on human beings. Just one was fatal. Yet the sheer number and persistence of the attacks, the terrifying reputation of the great white shark, and the particular focus that developed on the surf-rich north coast around Lennox Head, sent the national media into meltdown. Result: floods of rumour, rage and fear, several people struggling with the direct aftermath of personal involvement in the attacks, and a traumatised local surf community demanding action from a State Government that appeared very slow on its feet in response.

By November, the spray seemed to have settled on the issue. Then came yet another attack, this time in the heart of Ballina, on a young and much admired local surfer. In its wake lay the same questions: What really happened here? Why did 2015 break all records in such a dramatic and unexpected way? How are the victims coping? And will the northern NSW coastline ever quite look the same again to its surfing population?

Sharks have been part of the scenery along the NSW coast for as long as human memory can trace. You can find Aboriginal rock carvings of shark profiles wherever sandstone cliffs and ridges intersect with the ocean or frame one of its many estuaries. When European settlers arrived, they found the Sydney area's Aboriginal people fully aware of the dangers. In his diaries, the First Fleet's Lt. Watkin Tench describes their skill in canoes, but when a huge shark is caught in Port Jackson, he saw their "utmost horror at seeing these terrible fish… probably from having felt the effects of their voracious fury".

Attacks and encounters along the north coast, involving surfers and others, have been part of the record for many years. As recently as 2008, for instance, a 16-year-old bodyboarder died after being attacked in murky early morning waters off Lighthouse Beach; while last year a swimmer was killed off Byron's main beach while doing a solo lap from the Pass.

All the same, Don Munro – like the rest of the surfing population along the Lennox and Ballina area – was shocked by what happened to Tadashi Nakahara on February 9 at Shelly Beach.

Tadashi was well known to many of the area's crew. He'd worked in Wayne Webster's board factory, and at 41, had been surfing for many years. He was the third person to be attacked in NSW waters this year, and the second in as many days on the north coast after Jabez Reitman at Seven Mile Beach. (The first attack, on a kid named Sam Smith while spearfishing, occurred in mid-January at Mollymook, south of Sydney.)

It was the manner of the attack, by a great white shark thought to be between three and four metres, that shocked Munro and others. "It blew everyone away," says Don, president of LeBa Boardriders and a surfer with over 40 years' experience of this coast. "The shark hit Tadashi just above the knees and took both legs, the board's tail, three fins. It was horrifying, oh my God."

Three people, including surfer Darren Rogers, took part in the immediate rescue effort, bringing Tadashi back to shore. All have suffered considerable trauma since, and have sought professional help to cope. Darren recently wrote a moving piece for the SBS Insight website, in which he describes trying to get back into surfing again. "I've had four attempts at getting back in the water," he wrote. "Each only lasted about 15 minutes before I had to come back in. As someone who's surfed my whole life, it's strange to not be able to go in the water."

Tadashi's fate sensitised the local surf community. There'd always been attacks – the long-term average had been one fatality every 22 years – but not in such quick succession. The attitude to sharks before 2015 might best be summed up by longtime local surfer/shaper Phil Myers: "I'd never worried about 'em," he says. "There was tigers and makos and whalers, but never regular white sharks."

Phil recalled an incident earlier that summer at Shelly, when he'd paddled out and a white shark swam directly up beside him. "That was bloody unusual. I thought, something radical's changed."

He wasn't the only one. Eyes were suddenly peeled for a sighting. All the locals SL spoke to for this article say they'd heard of many bumps and close encounters in the months following Tadashi's death, most going unreported.

Pilots from the TNG helicopter service out of Ballina Airport began reporting sightings of great whites roaming back and forth along the coast. Over time, they identified at least seven individual sharks, growing so familiar with the outlines that they began giving them nicknames.

Meanwhile, surfers and non-surfers alike headed for headlands – Lennox and others – to see what they could see. What they saw with those sensitised eyes was a coastal ecosystem in thrive mode. Vast baitfish balls; schools of Australian salmon, mullet and tailor gathered both offshore and close to shore, occasionally herded by much larger dark winged shapes, soon to appear in many social media posts.

Further out, the big annual Humpback whale migration – the delight of many locals and tourists alike – had just begun. But the dark shapes around the baitfish closer in were what most surfers were thinking about.

So were local businesses. In a reaction reminiscent of the town of Amity in the novel/movie *Jaws*, Ballina Shire Mayor David Wright fronted the TV media to try to settle the concerns.

Crisis meetings were held. But while the Shire, the police, local surf clubs, commercial fishermen and the DPI were involved in these meetings, surfers were not. It pissed Don Munro right off. "We're on the frontline – how are we not part of the debate?" he says. "I started to get my back up at that point. I sounded out a few people about what we could do."

When he and others convened a community meeting at the local sports centre in May, over 200 people attended. They'd invited David Wright to explain the official response; the Mayor was left to convey the message from Primary Industries Minister Niall Blair that nothing would be done until a shark summit scheduled for September in Sydney.

It wasn't the message anyone wanted to hear. "It didn't go super well," says Don. "They knew we weren't super happy with how we'd been treated."

What the meeting wanted to hear was: there are seven big predatory sharks hanging around our surf beaches, so what are you going to do NOW? When the idea of what was carefully named "shark management" – meaning a partial cull – was raised, pretty much everybody put up their hands.

The C-word might have been what the tabloid media wanted to hear. But a cull was never on the cards. Governments are spooked by the word when a protected species is involved, especially in the light of what happened when the Western Australian Government recently

tried to conduct a cull of great white sharks using drumlines and commercial fishing vessels. The program caught and killed 171 sharks – not one was a white. It has since been discontinued.

Instead, the government held its ground. Premier Mike Baird, a surfer himself, specifically

RUMOUR 2

THERE'S A LOT MORE GREAT WHITES OUT THERE THESE DAYS.

This is pretty unlikely. Great white sharks were placed under protection in all Australian waters in 1997, following a lot of evidence that their numbers had been reduced to critically low levels through overfishing, particularly of breeding females. (Female whites grow bigger than males, meaning for one thing that their jaws make better and more expensive trophies.) According to John West of the Taronga Zoo, concerns were being raised about the decreasing numbers being caught in fisheries and in the shark meshing programs along Australian beaches. In protecting the species, Australian authorities were acting more or less in concert with governments around the world; South Africa first initiated protection for great whites in 1992. Just why the numbers are yet to recover is simple arithmetic. Female whites don't reach breeding size until around the age of 17, breed once every three years, and hatch somewhere between seven and 14 pups, who are then exposed to high mortality rates in their first year until they're big enough to fend for themselves. Thus a female shark born around the time of protection has barely yet had time to breed. Check back on this rumour in 30 years.





Soli Bailey and the Byron shark hop special.
PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD



If you can't beat them, join them in their beautiful water world. Soli B, in the womb.
PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD





ruled out any cull, telling the media he sympathised with the Lennox crew's fears, but would not be taking any immediate action.

The events of early July changed all that. On July 2, 32-year-old bodyboarder Matt Lee was attacked by a great white at Lighthouse Beach, suffering severe leg injuries. (We asked Matt to contribute to this feature, but he's still unable to discuss the incident in public.) Just a few weeks later at Evans Head, Craig Ison was attacked and survived with serious leg and hand injuries.

"It just felt like there was a murderer in our midst," says surfer/shaper and longtime area resident Gunther Rohn.

In the midst of this arrived hundreds of supergrommets with their parents for the annual Skullcandy Oz Grom Open, one of the most anticipated kids' surf contests in the world. On the first day of the event, it had to be shut down after a surfer (not in the event) was bumped by a large white at Lennox.

Then in an extraordinary intersection of fate, a surfer and a shark exploded into the biggest news story on the planet. Mick Fanning, who'd learned to surf in Ballina, was captured on the WSL broadcast cameras during the final of the J-Bay CT event, fighting to free himself from an agitated juvenile white shark.

Fanning conducted himself with the courage and grace we've come to expect from him, eventually donating a $75,000 TV appearance fee to Matt Lee to help with Matt's recovery. But the incident-turned-media-phenomenon's eerie timing just amplified what was happening in Northern NSW.

The weight of all this finally triggered the Department of Primary Industries into action. In an effort to investigate what was going on, the DPI contracted people to tag and track great whites off the far north coast, and plans were made for a wider response.

Meanwhile, attacks continued further down the coast. On August 22 in Port Macquarie, an unnamed 38-year-old man survived a white shark attack with injuries to his legs, stomach and back. On September 4, David Quinliven, a 65-year-old surf-ski paddler, was hit off Black Head, just north of Forster. Five days later, Justin Daniel, a surfer from Avoca Beach on the Central Coast, jumped into a longshore channel to paddle out for an early, landed on a shark – probably a small bronze whaler – and escaped with a hand injury.

In social media land, a sort of vague hysteria abounded. Facebook memes of Mick Fanning appearing to punch out the J-Bay shark sat next to Facebook memes of killer whales with white sharks in their mouths. A couple of blokes sold the media an epic dummy, providing mainstream media with what they claimed was footage of a large great white off Long Reef in Sydney. (The footage was clearly faked.) A self-described "animal communicator", Anna Breytenbach, who claimed to have telepathically engaged the great white shark "group consciousness" from a hill near Byron, suggested the problem was that people were going surfing in an aggressive, competitive frame of mind, more or less challenging the sharks to attack them. This may have come as news to Tadashi Nakahara, who everyone knew as a relaxed and playful surfer, if he'd been alive to hear it.

On the other side of what seemed to swiftly become a kind of opinion fence, people urged the government or anyone at hand to eliminate the threat with extreme prejudice. Frantic articles were penned about "monster sharks". In a lurid piece, *The Daily Telegraph* columnist Laura Banks painted sharks as "murderous", implied they were in a competition with humans



Contrary to popular belief, Mitch Crews didn't move to LA to escape the sharks. PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD

RUMOUR 3

TAHITIAN FISHERMEN TIE DEAD SHARKS TO REEFS TO WARD OFF OTHER SHARKS.

Nah, sorry. According to longtime Tahiti resident and fanatic surfer/fisherman Chris O'Callaghan, shark attacks in Tahiti are extremely rare, thanks to the combination of very clear water, large fish populations, and the absence of at least two of the big potential man-eater species (bulls and whites). And there's certainly no dead-shark ward-off culture among local fishermen, who live easily with the shark presence and view sharks as essential to healthy ecosystems. But! There is increasing evidence to suggest that sharks are repelled by the dead flesh of other sharks, particularly that of the same species. Research in Florida, using ragged tooth or nurse sharks, indicate the species will avoid an area where dead nurse shark flesh and its essences have been released. And at least one person SL spoke to during research for this feature recounted a story of using a tiger shark corpse to successfully discourage other tigers over a lengthy period.

for control of the coast, and declared, "The ocean is our domain and sharks have no place destroying lives and livelihoods; these predators are lurking out there ready to cull humans."

The LeBa locals that SL spoke to seemed to tread a middle road through the mayhem. They rejected the notion of a cull; several didn't even want to mention the word, believing it had been used to sensationalise the issue. "I don't believe in slaughter," says Phil Myers. "Culling is not the answer," says Don Munro, who's been plunged into a spokesman's role for surfers in the debate, and thus picks his words carefully, even to SL. "Sharks are there for a reason."

At the same time there was a lot of undirected resentment toward what they called "shark huggers" and others, whom they felt were telling them what to do. "They tell us, *Well don't go in the water and you won't see a shark*," says Don. "Well, fuck that! We're a surfing and water-going nation, maybe the biggest one on Earth. You can't tell us to stop."

Gunther Rohn says one of the helicopter surveillance pilots, for whom he shapes boards, told him that one of the seven white sharks appeared to be larger and more erratic in its movements than the others, lending weight to what Gunts calls the "rogue shark" theory. He's no believer in culls, but, "If we get a rogue shark, let's take it out. Fuck the shark huggers."

In late October the NSW State Government, through DPI Minister Blair, announced a range of responses to events on the north coast.

It is investing a reported $16 million over five years, including nearly $9 million on trialling a number of shark detection technologies, from helicopter surveillance to real-time shark tracking stations, drones, deep-water barrier nets, shark-detecting sonar buoys,



PROTECTION FROM SHARKS

Sharkbanz are a convenient shark deterrent for beachgoers, swimmers and surfers.

See how it works at **sharkbanz.com.au**

#sharkbanz

SHARKBANZ

3% FOR THE OCEAN

AGES 5+

NO BATTERY

200m DEPTH RATING

DURABLE & SECURE

MAGNETIC TECH

1 S M L XL UNIVERSAL FIT

WRIST & ANKLE



Aerial shark patrols spot some pretty sweet perspectives. Rasta knows nobody's ever been bitten in the barrel. PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD

and SharkSmart, a mobile app designed to tap into all the detection gear and let individual beachgoers know what they might encounter.

$7 million will also be spent on further tagging and research.

The CSIRO white shark program is also engaged in a DNA-mapping program in an attempt to discover more about white shark movements and the species' recovery rate from the fishing depredations that led to its protection.

This may well save lives. No doubt it will add to the growing store of knowledge about sharks along this coast – knowledge that still remains surprisingly thin. (It was only in 2009, for instance, that bull shark tagging in Sydney Harbour after the attack on navy diver Paul De Gelder revealed that bulls, like whites, travel up and down the coast – at times as far as the Great Barrier Reef.)

But it may never answer a simple question that's likely to haunt many Lennox surfers, especially as we approach next autumn: Why did those seven great white sharks hang around so long?

Great white sharks are not simple creatures. One scientist SL talked with described their behaviour as "considered". Their status at the head of the shark species list seems to fascinate people – and keep them guessing. An episode of SBS TV's *Insight* program on the events of 2015 around Lennox and Ballina was a disappointment to most locals, mostly because, as Gunts put it, "the experts don't agree".

But the one thing everyone seems to agree on is that big predatory sharks don't do things by accident.

What if these sharks had been sidetracked – held in the area by the reek of dead whale? In February this year, around the same time as the fatal attack on Tadashi Nakahara, a Gray's Beaked whale washed up on Seven Mile Beach. It was buried in the dune by the council and marked for eventual skeletal retrieval by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

In early July a large sperm whale was washed up at Sapphire Beach in Coffs Harbour. It had been filmed the day before, floating a couple of kilometres offshore and being ripped into by several great whites and a tiger shark. It too was buried in the dune.

Whale and dolphin carcasses have been washed up or seen close to shore in all the key attack locations this year, including Halliday's Point, where David Quinliven was attacked, and the NSW south coast, near where 2015's grim record was first marked.

Presumably these carcasses, along perhaps with others, are rotting comfortably, and draining secretions into near-shore waters as they do so.

The connection between blood and offal run-off and increased shark activity is well documented. Half of the 50 recorded shark deaths ever in NSW waters occurred in Sydney Harbour between 1852 and 1915, when the Glebe Island Abattoir was in operation. This is only 60 years or so after Watkin Tench had seen the Aboriginal reaction to big sharks in the same waters. And the dramatic spate of Sydney shark deaths in the 1920s and early '30s coincided with the operation of an abattoir at Malabar, not super far from Coogee, Maroubra and Bondi, where the attacks occurred.

Late in October, though, much of the heat seemed to have gone out of things. Shark tag tracking revealed that the big whites had left the area, recommencing their typical migration pattern down to the shark nurseries off Port Stephens and eastern Victoria. The warnings about a collapsing local economy

TOTAL PRIZE POOL VALUE OVER $61,000

AUSTRALIAN BOARDRIDERS BATTLE

MONSTER RAFFLE



#BackYourBoardriders

MAIN PRIZE
TOYOTA RAV4 AWD CRUISER DIESEL
2.2, 6-SPEED AUTO
Recommended Drive Away $55,000

- Includes all on road costs and dealer delivery
- Leather Accented Seats and premium steering wheel with audio, MID and telephone controls
- Single-disc in-dash CD player with 6.1" LCD touchscreen, MP3 compatibility and AM/FM tune with Satellite Navigation
- Blind Spot Monitor

2ND PRIZE **RRP $1,898**
Milwaukee M18 6-Piece Power Pack

3RD PRIZE
Oakley Pack **RRP $1,064**

4TH PRIZE
Original Source Pack including custom DHD surfboard **RRP $1,000**

5TH PRIZE
FCS Pack **RRP $890**

6TH PRIZE
Nikon P900 camera **RRP $878**

7TH & 8TH PRIZES **RRP $355 each**
Boost Mobile Pack **(2 to be won)**



head to www.monsterraffle.com.au to buy tickets

AND FOR COMPETITIONS FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PERMIT NUMBERS: TAS – 73608 / NSW – GOCAU/1706 / SA – M12995 / VIC – 10863/15 / QLD – 178866

RUMOUR 4

LOCAL NORTHERN NSW FISHERMEN HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING AN UNOFFICIAL GREAT WHITE SHARK CULL OF THEIR OWN.

We're pretty sure there's been some quiet by-catch in various trawler nets here and there. We're also pretty sure that if you really wanted to, you could find a set of jaws for sale somewhere. But an actual cull? Don't know. Several people suggested this was happening, but couldn't or wouldn't put names or details to the test. We think it's possible but doubtful; if such an unofficial cull has been occurring, it didn't get hold of any of the sharks that've been tagged by the DPI and subsequently tracked out of the Ballina area. And the fishermen wouldn't want to have any enemies; the legal penalties for killing a protected species like the great white can be steep. In February 2014 the DPI successfully prosecuted a fisherman who rammed and killed a juvenile white shark at Sussex Inlet on the NSW south coast; the man was fined over $18,000.

didn't appear to have been borne out – yet. No tourism-related businesses had gone under. Gunther Rohn says his factory's numbers "are the lowest they've gone"; he adds, however, that late winter and early spring are typically slow.

What had seemed slow was the number of Gold Coast surfers day-tripping to the Lennox area, a prime cause of annoyance for Lennox surfers in the past. Indeed in an ironic twist, Lennox and Ballina surfers – especially dads with their kids – are now heading north to surf up on the Goldie, where nets and drumlines are perceived as having made things safe. "Now I look for a crowd," says Gunts. "How fucking ironic is that."

Others have just kept on ticking. "I did [grow cautious] for a while, but then I went, fuck it, what's the use," says Phil Myers. "I'm more concerned about my son."

But as SL talked with Phil about the risks to local businesses, he said something foreboding about the future: "If anyone else gets taken around Ballina, you might as well just pack up and leave."

Within 10 days his words were connecting with events. This time it was 20-year-old Sam Morgan, a kid on the rise and coming out of a strong junior career. Sam was hit by a big Bull shark at North Wall while surfing alone in the late afternoon of November 10, and was taken to Gold Coast Hospital in an induced coma, suffering serious leg injuries.

The social media response this time was muted. Many people now seemed weary of hearing the news of another attack. Which seemed to herald something even more worrying than the hysteria: to wit, is this the new normal?

Surfers think they know this coast, but do we? We've only been surfing the Australian east coast in numbers since the early 1960s – since about the same time whaling was finally banned.

In that time, the Australian population has increased almost threefold, and the far north coast of NSW has undergone a near-complete social transformation, from a sparsely populated rural region to one of the nation's prime coastal playgrounds.

What if the events of 2015 mean we've reached a tipping point between the human population and the ecosystem? What if only now, as the coastal biomass begins to work its way back toward something nearer to pre-whaling and pre-commercial fishing days, we're beginning to see the coastline's true nature?

In late September, while the debate with all its fear, anger and uncertainty was still close to its peak, SL had a chance encounter with Rusty Miller. Rusty's been living in the Northern Rivers area since the early 1970s; his surfing experience between California, Hawaii and here eclipses most living humans'.

We talked about the terrible months just past, and SL asked him what he felt had been the biggest cause. Rusty demurred at picking just one. "There's a lot of causes," he said. "And they've all suddenly come together at once.

"It's a perfect storm."



Stu Kennedy knows that some things defy caution. Like getting barrelled at home on the NSW North Coast.
PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD



PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD



"When he realised I wasn't a tuna he spat me out."

JABEZ REITMAN

If you drop in at the Byron Bay Golf Club for dinner sometime this summer, chances are your meal will be cooked by Jabez. Married with two young girls, he's a confident, slightly chubby, Byron-born Victoria-bred boy in his mid-40s, who says he's the "son of hippies" and loves surfing.

That love of surfing and the desire to help a friend were what put him in the path of a bull shark. He paddled out at Seven Mile before dawn on February 8, 2015, followed by the friend, a girl who wasn't as experienced in the water.

The sun was just an orange tint on the horizon when he paddled through the gutter and duck-dived his way out the back, then looked back to see his friend getting pummelled. "I've gotta go back and help her," he told SL. "I got hammered by waves and was just telling her she'd be OK and I'd get her out. I kept thinking, Fuck, this isn't fun anymore… And that's when it happened."

Later on the beach Jabez could see bait balls erupting everywhere, but at the time he didn't realise he was in the middle of one. The shark hit him from behind. "He actually jumped out of the water and grabbed me, but when he realised I wasn't a tuna he spat me out. Gross."

He began to yell at his friend. "She thought I was teasing her, and when I saw the blood I knew I had to paddle and get her to paddle too, and take me seriously. It was a Jaws sort of moment. Get out of the water!

"My situation was pretty unique because I saw the shark at the last moment and was never able to see my wound firsthand, because it was on my back. It wasn't like, for instance, Craig Ison's, a giant shred in his arm and leg."

Jabez says he wasn't prepared for any of what followed. First it was the media. "I didn't go through the right channels, and a media group got a hold of me and it was a circus. It was sensationalist journalism. You just turn into a dollar sign to them – they want their story, and they're not there for the greater good. It was pretty, uh, hectic." Later, he appeared on the SBS Insight program, but says he felt that "Nothing really came to a head. It was all just opinions and opinions and opinions, but there was no general consensus on how we can move forward."

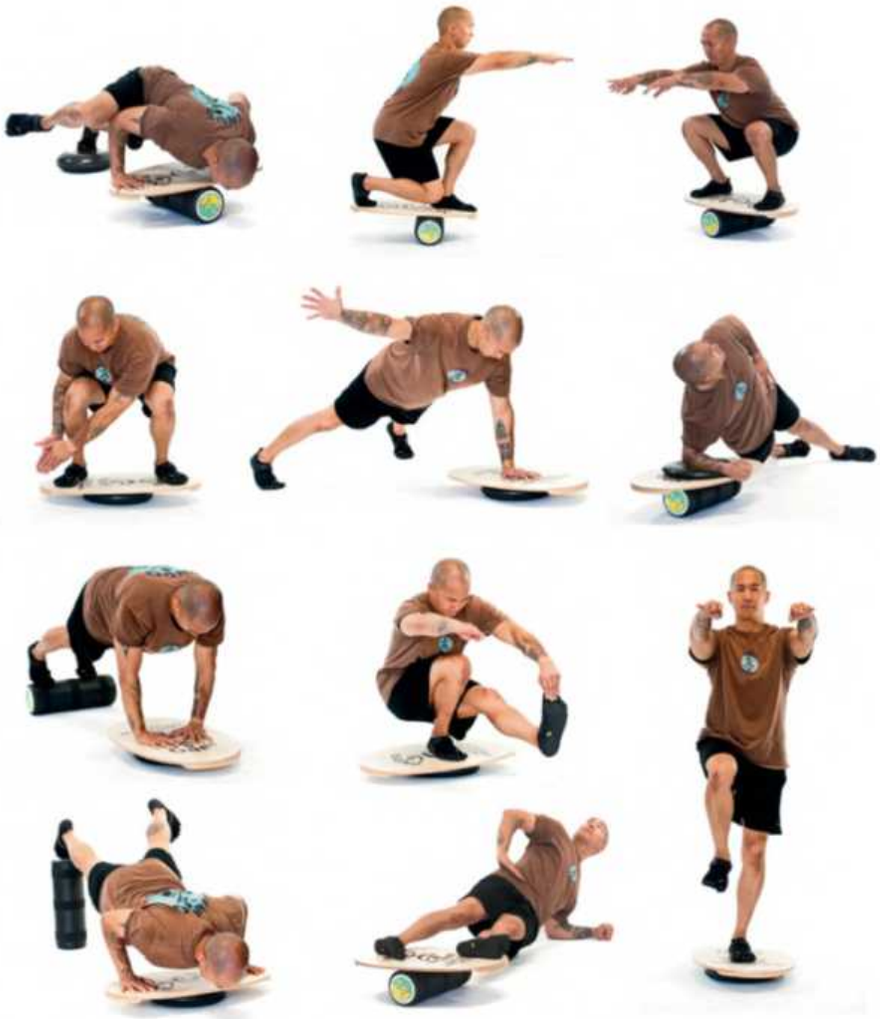
Then there was the personal side. He tried to get back into the water a few weeks after the attack, but found himself so badly rattled that he's sought ongoing psychiatric help. He wrestled with a short-term addiction to pot, finally snapping out of it when he felt it was endangering his family life.

He says he's been helped by joining the Bite Club, a support group for attack victims and their families. "We need to band together and be able to relate, and give each other peace of mind. They gave out a bravery award the other night on the GC, and that was in regards to not just victims, but people who have helped the victims and been there for them, at the attack and after. Because everyone involved has been scarred for life."

Jabez has also become associated with SharkBanz, manufacturers of magnetic shark-repellent devices. He says it's not a money thing so much as that he wants people to be safe: "I feel like it's my responsibility to really push the word to be safe in the ocean and be responsible for yourself.

"I don't want anyone to have to go through what I went through. We've been shown that we're not on the top of the food chain – we've had this primal experience – and it shows that we're still hunted. It's primal fear, and whenever you come across that sensation, it's with you forever… You have a lot more gratitude towards things and are more appreciative of people and situations.

"I'm just lucky that it was minor, as weird as that is to say. It could have been so much worse."



WANT TO SEE RESULTS IN YOUR SURFING?

Guaranteed to improve your surfing with just 20 minutes per day!



Used by 2X ISA World Champion Hawaiian Team, USA Team, UK Team, French Team

INDO BOARD
The Original Balance Trainer

www.indoboardaus.com



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM SURFBANYAK

BUY 5 SPOTS GET 1 FREE!

FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL 2016

{GO ON, DO IT!}

SURFBANYAK.COM
NORTH SUMATRA

CONTACT US: +61 434 080 694
INFO@SURFBANYAK.COM WWW.SURFBANYAK.COM

SURFBANYAK **SURFBANYAKCOM**

PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD



"Anyone who has been in the water in the last six months and not been bitten is lucky."

CRAIG ISON

One of the first things SL notices about Craig is the nasty bite marks up his left arm. Half the arm is just indented scar tissue. His hand was nearly shredded into bits, but has been successfully sewn back together – it's visibly puffy and it looks a bit like a voodoo doll. But he goes to hand rehab every day and he can use it almost normally.

He's quick to show us his leg wounds, which means he has to pull down his pants, saying, "I don't have an arse anymore!" Like his arm, his left leg and bum cheek are about half there.

Craig lives with his mum in a three-bedroom house in a nice homely part of Evans Head. When SL arrives, he's wearing his Bite Club t-shirt and cutting up herbs, making the tuna salad that he has every day for lunch.

Beyond the injuries, he's quite a cagey sort of guy, but he's really friendly. He's also convinced of how lucky he was.

By his own admission, Craig has been through a lot in his life. He's four years sober after many years of alcoholism and meth addiction. Since he's been sober, he's learnt that the highest high he can get is through being fit and working out. He reckons his fitness is what saved him.

"I was out surfing with my friend Jeffrey, and it came up right in between us. It was a three-metre juvenile white. We were paddling out in this weird rip gutter and then I saw it. It was heading towards us slowly, and I turned to Jeffrey and said to paddle, and that there was a shark.

"I looked at the fin and it wasn't normal – the tip curled back on itself. It glided closer and when I saw the curl of the tail, I knew that this thing wasn't here to do any good. I was calm and we were paddling back in, but then I saw the fin turn. It wasn't heading towards us anymore, but I couldn't see it, so I immediately stopped paddling to try to see where it was.

"That's when it launched almost six feet into the air; it twisted in the air towards me, and went for me. It knew I was human. He was smiling at me when he was in the air. He was happy. I think it was a game, to him. He was practising for seal season, and I was the target."

Craig fought the shark off, instructed his mate to tourniquet his arm and leg with their legropes, and woke up three days later in hospital.

He said that he believes sharks kill humans for enjoyment, not food. But he doesn't believe there is any mistake when they do go for a human – they know what they're doing. "I wasn't worried or scared about the sharks down here when the attacks were happening, before mine. I was going to keep surfing every single morning until it happened to me. And then it did."

He's since been deeply moved by the outpouring of kindness, generosity and respect from the community. The generosity of the human spirit wasn't something he was used to, being "a drunk and a drug addict".

Recovery has taken him from a wheelchair, to a walker, to a crutch, to where he is now, walking badly. He believes it'll take him two years to get back to health, and to a place where he might dare go in the water. If and when he does, it'll be in a safe place like the Gold Coast.

Unlike Jabez Reitman, Craig feels the ensuing media circus was good for him; it's helped him to tell his story and talk about it. Like Jabez, he feels the Bite Club has helped him, too. A friend called him while he was in the hospital and said, *Would you like to join the Bite Club?* And he said, *I think I already have*.

The attack seems to have given him deep cause for reflection: "This was the last test from God. The shark. Now that I've survived that, it's done."

But he's not overwhelmed by his importance in the bigger scheme of things, either. "My attack doesn't matter as much. I'm just an ex-junkie. When a kid gets bitten, that's when things will really start changing."

QUALITY & PROVEN SURF ACCESSORIES



PUKA PATCH

The highest selling Instant Ding Repair & Rail Tape in Australia. Instant waterproof repairing across various watercraft provides a cost effective solution to keep you in the water at all times ! Will stick to anything PU / Epoxy / Kite Bladders / Sails / Tents / high wear ares on Boat Rails etc. Won't fade or discolour, a clear product that is barely visible. The thin & rubbery like qualities provide the strength of thicker tapes... yet without any drag, edges to catch on & bubble free application due to the stretch factor. Available in 2 size patches, prepackaged Rail Kits kits or 50rntr rolls.

http://pukapatch.com



'JIMMY' WETSUIT POUCH

Putting on a wetsuit has never been so easy – less time in the change room, less time in the parking lot & more time in the water! Slip into a wet or dry suit about 90% faster...especially in the cold!

Hang for easy access or fold back up & slip into your wallet, made from a highly durable & slippery material that works 100x better than a plastic bag, a must have accessory for any wetsuit owner.

http://www.easyonsurfing.com



SURFINZ

Ask for Surfinz on your next board - why ? Because it will take your dual tab fins, you can adjust them forward or back & the under the glass install is the strongest option. Rail boxes come pre-set at 6 or 10 degree cant giving you every option to accommodate flat bottoms, deep channels or concaves. Surfinz carbon composite fins available in L/Board centres, S/Board Thrusters / Quads / Quin or Grom Quin's with FREE Nibbler Mini Pivot fin !

Extremely strong, durable & reliable. Surfinz is the fastest growing & simplest fin system on the market today!

http://surfinz.com/



ECOXGEAR

Highest rated waterproof, shockproof, weatherproof, bluetooth speakers on the market.

Also float & submersible! Incredible sound & tough enough to handle any environment from the beaches of the Bahamas, to the deserts of Arizona to the mountains of the Swiss Alps.

ECOXGEAR products are made to take a beating. Just Play...in the snow, sand and water.

http://www.ecoxgear.com



SURF LOCK

Surf Lock is the ideal solution to an age-old problem, it's not safe to leave your car keys hidden somewhere on your car or wrapped up in a beach towel. Surf Lock can be easily attached to different locations on your car, providing a safe & secure place to store your car keys or immobiliser while enjoying the outdoors. When not in use, the lock is small enough to be kept in the glove box of your car. Ideal for surfers, swimmers, adventuring outdoors, boating or fishing.

It can be secured to the tie down on your vehicle, your roof rack, wheel or trailer & is great anytime you need to leave your car but can't or don't want to carry your keys with you. Don't become a statistic, take security seriously with Surf Lock & don't be left watching from your surfboard as someone drives off in your car!



ISLAND TRIBE

Researched & developed by leading sunscreen laboratories in both Australia & South Africa, alongside professionals in the industry, to ensure that the formulas developed are world class. Island Tribe sunscreens are designed to give the user maximum protection against both UVA & UVB rays, each sunscreen having been designed with a unique consumer in mind. In addition to this, our products are recognised by the TGA as protection against the harmful effects of the sun. Launched in 1992 with the aim of providing a waterproof sun protection for all watersport enthusiasts, the range consisted of only the Clear Gel, which to this day has been unrivaled by competition. Now distributed in 25 countries, the Island Tribe sunscreen range is different from conventional sun ranges due to its CLEAR gel products & the water resistance they offer. We pride ourselves in having the most trusted water resistant sunscreen on the market.



WAX BUDDY

Simply put, the Wax Buddy is the perfect wax tool, try it once & you will never go back to using ordinary wax combs again.

Made from 100% recycled ABS plastic. Also a great option for private label branding.

www.waxbuddy.com



MY GO

The MyGo Mouth Mount for GoPro® & action sports cameras has a comfortable Rubber Mouthpiece, bite supports for stable footage, a massive air channel for unrestricted breathing & a low profile lanyard to keep your camera close. We thought of everything!

Designed with flexibility & ease-of-use in mind & motivated by one surfer's desire to share what it feels like to get spit out of a macking barrel, we knew that the traditional options for GoPro® mounts just wouldn't suffice. The result is a compact, lightweight & sturdy mouth mount that can get you the sickest shots of your biggest tricks & waves as you see them. Beware, it's extremely addicting!



OUCH

This 100% Herbal formulation is safe for children of all ages & can be re-applied as often as needed.

Ouch! Instant Sting Relief Spray & Insect Repellent are proudly manufactured in Australia. 100% Herbal and organic, the range does not contain any nasty chemicals so it can be used for the entire family - most of all young children. Tested in some of the harshest environments by some of the biggest sceptics Ouch! has quickly become the product of choice amongst outdoor enthusiasts. Compact & Lightweight, can be carried in any purse, handbag, shirt or boardshort pocket. With over 300 sprays per pack the range is affordable & is a must for your next outdoor adventure.



STARFIN

With designer Ben Lexcen, Cheyne Horan developed a winged keel fin based on an America's Cup sailboat design. The Star Fin has been a great success for Cheyne & continues to sell well today.... now seeing increased growth through retro single fins, longboards & SUP.



SCARFINI

A simple, high quality fin range growing from strength to strength.

Covers everything from Thruster to Groms to Quads to Keels.



FINGER GRIP

Safely & secure your watercraft of choice using the finger hold displays, either horizontally or vertically.

Cost effective & easily removable, great for retail or homes.

Replace one of the box images with this additional attached image titled 'vertical storage'.

DISTRIBUTED BY:

Email: rob@watershack.com.au

/watershack.com.au

_watershack

WATERSHACK .com.au

"Thinking Watersports. Think WaterShack"

OTHER WATERSHACK BRANDS:

Aquaglide · PAQUA · VestPac · Paddle Clip · ONIT · Beachwheels

STOP MAKING EXCUSES

RATIONAL ADVICE FROM RATIONAL CONSERVATIONIST, MADISON STUART.

MIMI LAMONTAGNE

The human race has been swimming with sharks ever since the very first person touched the ocean. They've always been there and always will be – whether or not we're aware of their presence is the point of difference. There are some people out there searching for great whites, waiting and wishing that a tiger shark would come strolling by, while the rest of us are praying for the opposite. The former group are known as shark divers, and it seems that every year there are more and more people, aged younger and younger, looking for their time with the king of the ocean's food chain.

Meet Madison Stuart. She's 22 years old, lives on the Gold Coast and calls herself Shark Girl. Since the tender age of 14, it has been her mission that these fearsome creatures be the driving force of her life and career.

She represents a movement of divers out there that, through their unique underwater experiences, have happened into a career path of environmentalism. Her personal avenue has been a video camera – making short clips and documentaries – and the reason we chose to speak with Madi is that, over the years, these videos have made a visible impact in spreading the word about shark conservation.

"Yeah, but I hate the word 'conservationist'. I hate being referred to as a conservationist, even though I guess that's what I am," she says. It's a rainy Wednesday morning and Madi's driving down to Byron Bay to go for a surf. Topical, I think.

"I never really wanted to do it – it's just something that I got thrust into, because the reality is that things are changing really quickly. I've been into diving and surfing and the oceans my whole life, but I didn't really get serious until I was about 14. I went back to one of the same places on the Great Barrier Reef that I had been diving before, but much to my surprise, there were no sharks there anymore. At a really young age, I had witnessed the collapse of a population, and that's when I turned into a bit of a conservationist."

At the tender age of 14, it's hard to be taken seriously – so rather than looking to accolades or diplomas for validity, Madi turned to filmmaking. She saw that people took notice when they saw tangible evidence, when they saw believable footage. So over the years she has made short films and documentaries to get her message out.

That message, unlike most other conservationists, isn't something along the lines of *sharks are our friends, sharks are just misunderstood, sharks are cute!* Instead, it's a much more realistic, and practical, approach. Her goal is to change the way that Australia looks at sharks – not just for the preservation of the animal, but also for the preservation of Australian beachgoers.

"My favourite thing about sharks is the *Jaws* factor. The fear. The mentality. That's what attracted me to them in the first place. I like that about them, that they actually spark fear in people. And it's sad that that very thing has become their undoing. They're a great representation of how wrong humans can be – what we think about them, and what they actually are. But I'm not like a lot of other conservationists who say that they're not dangerous, because they are. It's just that any animal can be dangerous in the right situation."

Which, taken without the usual reaction of *yes, but it's not the same*, is true. Sharks bite people, dogs bite people, snakes bite people. But we're not their food – it's the situation that creates the attack.

"Sharks do not want to eat humans. If sharks wanted to eat humans, nobody would be able to go surfing. We'd have missing people everywhere. What we're dealing with is an animal that interacts with humans on a daily basis, and occasionally, it's a bad interaction. And whenever there is the combination of fear and humans, things get twisted. When you look at the amount of money and attention the shark problem gets, versus something like domestic violence or road accidents, it's pretty evident what we're driven by… it's all because of fear. We're not driven by the *chance* that we're going to get attacked – we're driven by the *fear* of an attack. And that's when facts get pushed aside."

Madi believes that the situation on the northern coast of New South Wales has come to a head because of environmental factors. "There is no huge boom in the great white population because they've been protected – that's not true. There is no *sharks have suddenly got a taste for humans* and there's no single rogue shark going around attacking people. What's happening right now is a regrowth of a species of fish called a blue pilchard, which was nearly wiped out in the year 1999 – we haven't seen them in large numbers since then, and they have just bounced back." And as science has shown us, when a species is wiped out and comes back into existence, they do so with a force. Over time, the environment will naturally whittle down that overgrowth. "But in the meantime we're seeing a huge feeding frenzy, which is bringing in the fish, which is bringing in the small sharks, which is then bringing in the big sharks.

"Yes, sharks are going to occasionally bite people. A curiosity bite is usually what it is, and that's why people die of blood loss back on shore, rather than being eaten alive. It does happen, and it might be because we look like seals, and it might be because we look injured, no matter what we are. Sharks are trained to hunt injured things.

"I love sharks, and I don't want to see them dead, but you can't make any excuses for them – which a lot of pro-shark advocates like to do. They're big, dangerous animals.



PHOTO: ERNST STUART



Here's where we [illegible] something about Tia being so m[illegible] than just a pretty face, because she's s[illegible] this waves pretty face, or something. Ge[illegible] PHOTO: DAVID TROYER

PHOTO: PIA OYARZUN



PHOTO: ERNST STUART



I think that it's absolutely necessary that people find ways to protect themselves in the ocean. It's scary being out there on a surfboard in the middle of a hunting ground of great whites. But it's when fear starts motivating – it's when uneducated locals get their say in things – that's when we see things like culling and shark nets. And the fact is that they just don't work. They're futile activities. There needs to be a solution, but people need to realise that is going to take time."

Over the past few months, Madison has been going to schools and talking to kids about shark safety. "We live in a country where we learn about rips, flags and currents in school. But we never spoke about sharks. The kids never learned dusk/dawn, bait balls, murky water. So I think we have to stop ignoring the fact that they're in the ocean and educate people about safety from a young age. That's why it's so frustrating to see people go out and surf in the middle of a huge bait ball at dusk, or something – they need to think about the repercussions on not only their own lives, but the whole community, if they get attacked.

"It's about time that divers and conservationists stopped making excuses for animals. There are many, many sharks and animals that we can dive with and have pleasant interactions with – and they're not bloodthirsty, mindless creatures – but at the same time, there's no escaping the reality that there are dangerous animals offshore, sharks included. Swimming with a great white is very different than someone being on a surfboard around one that is hunting. They're not comparable.

"But the longer we continue to fear them and be ignorant of them, the worse it's going to get – we're just broadening that gap between fear and understanding. And understanding is the only thing that's going to save people right now… that little bit of education. There are no *super dangerous sharks*… but there definitely are super dangerous situations."

After talking with Madison, I didn't necessarily agree with everything she said. Are the blue pilchards the cause of all this? Who knows? I sure don't. But she is right about one thing – until we find a solution that equals 100 per cent safety (*if* we find a solution that equals 100 per cent safety), the only answer is to better understand the situation, and how not to put yourself in the ones that'll kill you, or your best mate.

from $345



Geraghty

brought to you by Geraghty Custom Shapes est '87

make surfing fun!

order direct **geraghtyshapes.com**



Softboards available in five sizes:
6, 7, 8, 9ft & SUP

Custom orders from performance
short boards to hybrid fun boards



LITTLE CREATURES

THE SL SUMMER FUN BOARD GUIDE

They're here! Hell, they've been here a while already. Just lurking around the jungles of surfboard design, waiting for summer warmth to emerge and ambush us all with their sheer playfulness. Yep, they're funboards, but not as we once knew them. In fact, this is a new species entirely. Because unlike the "funboards" of the past, these zany little creatures are actual real fun to ride...

FOR THE FULL TEST GO TO:

SURFINGLIFE.COM.AU/FUNBOARDS



How many Fun Boards can you fit in a Rav4? Freakin' heaps, that's how many! We know, because we tested it's capabilities over and over again in the making of our Fun Board Guide for Summer 2016. She copped dripping wet leggies all over the carpet, sharp, pointy fins poking her upholstery, not to mention our terrible navigation... but she got us where we needed each and every time with all fiberglass in one piece. Practical, clean, efficient, good-looking... she's far too good for us, but don't tell her!

TOYOTA



Craig Anderson
PHOTO: BOSKOVICH



Has Summer got you down? One foot of swell? North winds? No sweat! Head to your closest backbeach, pull out your fun board and get it done! Sheldon Simkus, Harley Ingleby and James Wood prepare to do just that during our Summer Fun Board Test on the mid-north coast of New South Wales. PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD

WHERE ARE THEY COMING FROM?

This is a design style inspired by several trends. It's influenced by the retro movement of the early 2000s and the Kelly-driven miniboard thing of 2009, with traces of the old mini-mal trip mixed in underneath. It's also inspired by the waves we ride; let's face it, most days, most waves are more suited to glide rather than gouge. But the biggest inspiration here is the marketplace, the surfers, us. As riding pro-level equipment has begun to look more and more like serious work, a great desire for play has arisen among the surfers of Australia. An ancient surfing urge to just fucken' muck around, for no better reason than you can. In these stumpy trimmed-off rounded out little slither-machines, that ancient urge is re-born.

HOW TO DEFINE THEM?

They come in numerous shapes and sizes, but there are common bonds between these skittery little beasts. A normal board's volume is compressed into a shorter package, and even increased in some cases, meaning nothing is lost and something is gained in paddling speed and ease of handling. Overall rocker is lowered and turning potential is transferred from the rocker into the outline, making for simpler turns and more lateral (read: down-the-line) speed. There's often a fin set choice involved, with potential for switching between three and four fins. There's also a greater proportion of super-lightweight materials — styro cores, epoxy resins, carbon supports in place of wood, etc — in the mix here. The overall concept: smaller, easier, funnier.

WHAT DO THEY DO?

Typically, this style of board promotes a style and approach to surfing that takes the heat off you, the surfer, without turning you into a clunker. They'll catch waves easily thanks to the held volume and lower entry rocker. Fast twitch reaction speed and vertical turning is swapped out for a more casual feel, greater lateral speed and momentum, smooth turns and easy recoveries, yet modern rail design, fresh materials and the cutdown length makes them way more sensitive and lively than their retro inspirers. They'll accommodate you, but they can be pushed out to some edges in the right conditions. Most of all, they'll give you time to enjoy the feel of the wave, without driving you to make rapid decisions about your next Alley-Oop.

WHERE THEY WORK BEST?

The native home of this craft is the relaxed sand pointbreak, but it will also thrive in rip bowls, fractured reef breaks, smaller, peeling waves of all kinds — indeed pretty much any kind of surf you're likely to find day-to-day on urban Aussie coasts. Its liking for lateral speed means it is suited to slightly longer rides, but it kind of doesn't care, as long as there's something to catch. It loves a cutback, a floater, a nice lil' barrel, and it connects sections just for, well, fun. There's a definite size limit — if you wanna ride one in six foot waves, go ahead, but don't blame us — yet below that, it's extremely versatile and a natural addition to most travelling quivers.

MASTERS OF THE STYLE

Neal Purchase Jr

Craig Anderson

Harley Ingleby!

Asher Pacey

Bryce Young

Steph Gilmore (when she feels like it)

THEY'LL SUIT YOU IF YOU:

- Prefer bottom turns to airs
- Aren't on the QS
- Want to simplify your surfing
- Usually don't ride powerful spitting four to six foot pits
- Believe in quivers
- Don't mind lending your board to your mates

LOST

lostaustralia.com // (07) 5641 1988
admin@lostoz.com.au



\\ THE QUIVER KILLER EPS //

5'8" X 19 1/4" X 2 1/3" VOLUME: 27.75L

Lost's latest upgrade on their high performance hybrid, The Short Round. In the tradition of the Rocket and its many knock offs, the Quiver Killer bridges the gap between easy riding 'cheater' boards and the high-performance shortboard. Tested all around Southern California in the summer of 2014, then revamped Biolos' Bali tour this year, this board has more than impressed and the buzz about it is spreading fast. The speed comes from a low to mid entry rocker and wide-ish nose, with a forward wide point and generous concave throughout. The performance comes from a moderate, but not flipped up, tail rocker, a double concave through the fins and the same sort of modern round tail that you would find on some typical, contest-style, small wave high-performance shortboards. It doesn't look like anything fancy, and there are no gimmicks, but some times less is more, and there is a lot packed into this little board.

Lost Surfboards, established in San Clemente, California and co-founded by Matt "Mayhem" Biolos. The Lost/Mayhem brand can be found under some of the worlds best surfers, such as: Taj Burrow, Kalohe Andino, Carrisa Moore and Tyler Wright, just to mention a few.

SUPER

superbranded.com // (07) 5536 4681
australia@superbranded.com



\\ VAPORS // GT //

5'7" X 19' 3/8" X 2 1/4" VOLUME: 25.7L

The Vapors // GT is built on the legacy of one of SUPER's most popular and time tested boards, the Vapors. The GT version features all the new improvements and proven performance elements of the Vapors, but adds a touch more width and a double wing tail design. The added width makes for extra volume and outline curve while the wings pull the tail area in to allow for tight, quick adjustments in the pocket. The Vapors // GT gives versatility and performance everywhere you need it. Featuring a wider, fuller outline for easy paddling, a low to mid entry rocker, a fast single to double concave, a five plug set up for tri/quad fin option and a double wing with diamond, round or squash tail, you should ride this board 3 – 5 inches shorter and a half-inch, or more, wider than a standard shortboard.

SUPERbrand's Shapers' Collective is a team of shapers and designers collaborating to produce the most innovative surfboards with and for the most progressive surfers on the planet. Regionally specialized shapers in nearly every region of the world provide the SUPERbrand team and customers a wide variety of shortboards. Why? It all comes from a desire to share knowledge and ideas for the greater good of our team and customers.

FIREWIRE

firewiresurfboards.com // (07) 5587 7700
info@firewiresurfboards.com



\\ THE GREEDY BEAVER //

5'6" TO 6'10" VOLUME FROM 29.9L TO 52.1L

The Greedy Beaver has a real shortboard feel with a compressed longboard outline; a true crossover board with mid-length retro glide and shortboard maneuverability. Put it on rail while engaging the single to double concave, step on the rounded pin and it surfs like a shortboard in the pocket, while the volume under your chest makes paddling a breeze. 5'6" to 6'10" with volume from 29.9L to 52.1L and a five fin setup. Only available in TimberTEK.

TIMBERTEK represents a significant step forward towards the holy grail of any product designed and manufactured in today's environmentally conscious world. While by no means sustainably built, Firewire's TIMBERTEK has by far one of the least toxic and smallest carbon footprints of any commercially available surfboard today.

CLEARWATER

clearwatersurf.com.au // 0417 912 207
stevedelrosso@yahoo.com.au



\\ THE CRUMPET //

5'9" X 21 X 2 5/8" VOLUME: 33.7L

The Crumpet is designed to suit a large range of surfers, from high performance rippers to those just beginning. It has a wider outline, making it perfect for the smaller, mushier waves you're stuck surfing in summer. It still has a refined shape, especially through the tail, so you don't lose any manoeuvrability or agility in the water. The Crumpet is perfect for the person who needs that extra bit of foam or just wants to get into waves earlier without compromising the performance of the board. It is a wave-catching, fast, fun small wave board that is smooth to surf with a touch of looseness. It also goes great in the barrel. Clearwater team riders favour this board for airs as it pops out of the lip easily and has forgiveness on landing.

Steve Del Rosso has been shaping his own label, Clearwater Surfboards, for over 20 years, originally in Rockingham, Western Australia and in more recent years in Currumbin, QLD.

DMS

dmshapes.com // (07) 5559 5949
info@dmshapes.com



\\ THE GHERKIN //

5'1" X 20 1/8" X 2 1/2" VOLUME: 29L

The Gherkin is a tweaked out version of our Crumpet model. We have adapted the crown tail from our performance model to increase bite through turns. The Gherkin is flat, wide and fast allowing you to plane through flat sections with ease. Available as a Quad fin set up for extra drive, high line trims and down-the-line speed. Constructed using DMS's patented Carbon Wrap technology and a fused cell EPS core, it will have you amped to surf summer slop that would normally send you troppo.

Dan MacDonald has established himself as one of Australia's most versatile shapers. Previously working from all corners of the globe, Dan has forged his own path with a focus on design, innovation and quality. Creator of the patented CARBON WRAP® technology, providing a next level laminating technique and inspiring the future of surfboard design globally.

JR

jrsurfboards.com.au // (07) 5554 5488
info@jrsurfboards.com.au



\\ THE WRAPTOR //

5'8" X 19 7/8" X 2 7/16" VOLUME: 29.5L

The Wraptor has been created as a board that not only grovels but will also surf progressively in a steep pocket. It has a super flat rocker through the back end for speed, however the late vee off the tail lets the board pivot without losing any drive. The front-end rail line rocker is forgiving when you want it on rail. The nose area has been pulled in more than originally planned, and by narrowing the nose area, it's gained rail to rail ability without catching edges. The board is a single double concave to a vee off the tail. The swallow tail offers responsiveness and with the width, it still has release in steep sections and stability in flatter sections. The fins are more vertically set than usual, giving the board more drive. The Wraptor should be ridden four to five inches shorter than your standard board. The feel of a high performance short board with all the benefits and attributes of a proper grovel board... a true all-rounder built for summer.

Jason Rodd is one of the Gold Coast's most sought after shapers. Innovation,progressive designs and attention to detail have seen JR forge a reputation as one of our global industry leaders.JR produces a high quality product proven and tested by some of the worlds best surfers.


SHOTGUN
DMS
LOST
GERAGHTY
ECS
SUPER
FIREWIRE
JR
STUART
CLEARWATER
EMERY
GRAVELLE

STUART

stuartsurf.com.au // (07) 5572 0980
stuartsurf@hotmail.com



\\ PANTERA-X //

5'9" X 20" X 2 1/2" VOLUME: 30L

The Pantera-X features a super wide rounded pintail, a really wide nose that retains more of a point to the tip. The bottom curve is a single to double concave with a vee out through the tail. To complete the picture it features five fin plugs to enable multiple fin combinations. The ideal wave range for the Pantera-X is one to four feet.

Stuart has worked with Richard Harvey and Dominic "Zappa" Wybrow, gaining influence from Thornton Fallander and Tony Dempsey as well. Stuart has spent time refining his shapes and gaining surfing knowledge from trips to Indonesia, Fiji, Japan, New Zealand and many more tropical islands in the South Pacific, not to mention the quality Gold Coast.

EMERY

emerysurfboards.com // (02) 6685 5500
al@emerysurfboards.com



\\ PRESS PLAY //

5'1" X 21 1/2" X 2 3/16" VOLUME: 26L

This board is built for fun. Ride it super small for a performance twist or ride similar size to your shorty for an easy riding summer board, your choice. The belly of the board has a slight double concave, drawing the water through the board and giving you your initial speed. A rolled vee through the tail with an even deeper concave on the rails, lets you to push through the board, generating more speed and allowing you to surf rail to rail. A wide surface area in the tail lets you ride out of the tricky situations or un-makeable airs. Press Play comes in a five fin set up, but for maximum fun, we recommend riding as a quad.

Emery Surfboards grew from a passion for surfing. Starting life on the right-handers of Lennox Point NSW Australia, this passion grew into an obsession; an obsession to learn, grow, design and manufacture world class surf crafts. From the avid learner to the world's elite, design and evolution is at the forefront of our mind. Our existence relies on your love for the ocean and fine quality surfing machines for every condition and every surfer.

ECS

ecsboards.com.au // 0404 494 236
info@ecsboards.com.au



\\ THE BULLDOG //

5'10" X 20 5/8" X 2 1/2" VOLUME 32.5L

A great everyday board designed for 90% of surf conditions. It's a super fast, skatey, paddles effortlessly and is highly maneuverable. Featuring a single into double concave and flattening out in the tail. A super-fun board that can be ridden in two foot mush to a little over head. A CNC-shaped EPS blank with a honeycomb core mat, vacuum-sandwiched to the deck. The core mat absorbs less resin and provides additional compression resistance. Part of the Core Flex series, it's light and strong, weighing only around 2.5kg.

Formed in 2005 with one vision in mind – to bring high quality performance boards to the market at reasonable prices. Based on the Central Coast of NSW, the ECS team grew up in the water with a passion for surfing. It's this passion and attention to detail that has seen ECS grow from humble beginnings, now constantly evolving with new techniques and technology providing quality shapes using only the best materials sourced locally.

GERAGHTY

geraghtyshapes.com // 0422 442 044
deang@geraghtyshapes.com



\\ THE BULLET //

5'4" X 20 1/4" X 2 1/2" VOLUME: 29.5L

The Bullet model is designed for those small weaker wave days, allowing you to catch the waves with ease, but short enough not to sacrifice any performance, even on the smallest of waves. Ideal for most summer beach-break wave conditions, this particular shape is designed for a surfer 75 – 80 kgs. Best-surfed six inches shorter than your regular shortboard. An added feature to this board is the quad fin set-up that has been installed with the unique 4-way fin system allowing the shaper to be able to fine-tune your boards for you.

Dean Geraghty has been shaping since 1987 and immigrated from South Africa four years ago. Now residing on the beautiful Sunshine Coast, Dean has continued his passion for custom-board designing for surfers wanting to know more about what shape works best for them in different surf conditions.

SHOTGUN

noosasurfworks.com.au // (07) 5474 4567
info@noosasurfworks.com.au



\\ THE TUNNEL RAT//

4'5" X 20 1/2" X 2 3/4"

The ultimate small-wave fun board. This board has evolved over the last two decades with nothing but fun in mind. It will put you in positions on the wave you never thought possible. Channels have finally found a home in this design, adding drive and bite, but releasing when necessary. Shotgun see a future in this design for taking futuristic surfing to another level on different parts of the wave, not to mention with the wave pool revolution just around the corner - it is perfectly suited to that kind of environment.

Shotgun Surfboards is a family-run business that has been operating in the Noosa region since the early 1970s. Shotgun create a wide variety of boards including Laguna Bay Longboards and Gordon and Smith surfboards just to name a couple. Shotgun has a very talented team of craftsmen and pride themselves on the highest quality in surf craft.

GRAVELLE

gravellesurfboards.com // (08) 8625 1094
info@gravellesurfboards.com



\\ SQUASH TAIL EGG //

5'6" X 21" X 2 3/4"

A versatile fun board for small, gutless waves but with the ability to hold it's own in larger, better quality waves if needed.

Paul Gravelle has been handcrafting high quality surfboards for demanding South Oz desert waves since the 1980s and has developed a reputation as one of Australia's finest shapers, specialising in boards for excellent surf for a discerning customer base.



PHOTO: ANDREW SHIELD

MIMI LAMONTAGNE

GETTING BLIND

WITH HARRY BRYANT

AND THE NOOSA BOARDRIDERS CLUB

For the past five years, the Noosa Boardriders Club has finished runner-up at the Straddie Assault… the biggest yearly gathering of boardriders' clubs; the event with envy, the function with fame. And everyone knows coming second is basically losing.

But in 2015, they just couldn't take it any longer – they banded together and took it down with a vengeance that only a five-time failure can have. In honour of their long-winded and hard-earned success, we decided to feature Harry Bryant, one of their stars, as this month's Boardrider. Reader? Meet one of the funniest, most talented characters in up-and-coming Australian surfing.

BEST THING ABOUT SUNSHINE COAST:
It's such a good place to come home to. I always look forward to coming home after being on the road and seeing everyone at the local coffee shop, having a chin wag. I'm down there for hours some mornings!

WORST THING ABOUT SUNSHINE COAST:
It has a pretty bad lack of waves… but when it's good, it's really damn good.

BEST HEAT:
I remember surfing a heat with three of my best mates in pumping waves at home, and really, that's what being in a boardrider club is all about.

WORST HEAT:
Ahh, we've all had 'em! I remember being about 10 years old, trying to paddle out the back and surf with the older crew. I spent the whole 20 minutes duck-diving and trying to punch through the shorebreak. That wasn't my finest moment.

BEST CLUB TRIP:
That'd probably be our most recent trip to the Stradbroke Assault. We had a really good crew and the vibe was awesome – just being on the beach getting into the spirit and cheering on your team is awesome. The whole comp had finished and we all stayed down there sinking piss until the sun went down, then continued sinking piss long into the evening. A Straddie ritual at its finest.

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT:
I remember my first ever day at Boardriders. I was nine years old. I remember surfing about 87 heats and being in the water all day. The next day I couldn't open my eyes, so Mum took me to the doctor and he said that I almost went blind. I had burnt the top layer off my eyes and my pupils were like holes going into my head. It was gnarly! But looking back on it, it's a classic grommet tale.

MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT:
Boardriders is for the kids and the up-and-coming wave of grommets – teaching them heat strategies and ocean skills. But most importantly, it's important to remember that surfing is fun. I fucking hate it when soccer mums and dads come down and take the emphasis away from the kids and create drama – you see it all too often at events these days.

CLUB LEGEND:
Chuck Cervi. He has run the club for about 108 years. Just recently he moved to Fiji with his lovely wife, Cheryl, and handed down the throne to Shannon Neil. But I have to give credit to my mum, Emma – she is the club secretary and has to deal with all the maths and organisation behind the scenes. I really believe, over the past five years, Noosa Boardriders wouldn't exist without my mum. I'm sure everyone agrees with me. Onya, Emzy!

MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT:
I was surfing a heat and fucking smashing it. I thought I got two nines, so I came in early… and then I found out that the heat hadn't even started. Haha!

FUNNIEST STORY:
There are way too many! All of the good ones are whilst being intoxicated. My first year at the Straddie Assault it all got pretty rowdy on the last night – I woke up to go surfing and all the furniture was in the pool. That was funny.

CLUB GROMMET:
Ethan Trotman. He surfs amazingly for how young he is, but he's a respectful kid – that's why I like him. I have a lot of time for grommets with respect.

RIVALRY:
Ah, man, my biggest rivals would have to be the Cervi brothers. We were so competitive back in the day, and we still are! It's awesome. All the boys at home rip so hard, so we're all pretty competitive, I reckon. When the Sunshine Coast gets big everyone is chasing the bomb of the day.

CELEBRATIONS:
We celebrated pretty hard after the Assault this year! Man, it felt good to get the win. We have never won that event, and had come second five years in a row. And we were always in the top eight. So needless to say, we earned a few coldies that night!

CLUB ANIMAL SPIRIT:
Vanda, who is Corgi's dog. He's a boxer (and a badass).

CLUB POP STAR:
Naomi Stevic goes hard on the dance floor!

CLUB DRINK:
XXXX. True blue Queenslanders.

CLUB MOTTO:
Chuck once said, "Take no prisoners."

STRADDIE ASSAULT:
Surfing with friends all day, then washing it down at the pub that night.

WHAT DOES THE CLUB MEAN TO THE SUNSHINE COAST?
It's a place to showcase talent. Every beach town needs a boardriders' club. They are so important – way more educational than school, haha.

WHAT DOES THE SUNSHINE COAST MEAN TO THE CLUB?
There's a big rivalry between the Sunshine Coast and the Gold Coast. A few grommets have moved to the Goldy because they think they will get more of a chance at becoming a pro. What people don't know is that there are a crazy amount of talented surfers on the Sunny Coast – we just don't have the limelight that the Gold Coast has. But keep it… we don't want it.

WWW.AUSTRALIANBOARDRIDERSBATTLE.COM

EDITORIAL
EDITOR: Wade Davis wade@surfinglife.com.au
MANAGING EDITOR: Ryan Jones ryan@surfinglife.com.au
DESIGNER AND APP DEVELOPER: Dave Read davidr@morrisonmedia.com.au
BOARD SPORTS VIDEO PRODUCER: Sam Norwood sam@surfinglife.com.au
ONLINE EDITOR: Mimi LaMontagne mimi.l@surfinglife.com.au
INTERN: Sam Zubevich sam.z@surfinglife.com.au
CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Gra Murdoch gra@morrisonmedia.com.au
FEATURES EDITOR: Nick Carroll ncsurf@ozemail.com.au
FEATURES EDITOR: Tim Baker tim@bytimbaker.com
PUBLISHER – BOARD SPORT TITLES: Craig Sims craig@morrisonmedia.com.au

CONTRIBUTORS
Tim Baker, Chris Binns , David "Crappy" Campbell, Nick Carroll, Mariah Ernst, Mimi LaMontagne, Jed Smith, Brittany Lee Waller.

SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHERS
Scott Bauer, Ray Collins, Andrew Chisholm, Hilton Dawe, Damea Dorsey, Stuart Gibson, Ted Grambeau, Duncan Macfarlane, Tim McKenna, Trent Mitchell, Bill Morris, Russell Ord, Shane Peel, Lee Pegus, Daniel Russo, Andrew Shield.

THE ASL PHOTO FAMILY
Nate Adams, Eric Aeder, Scott Aichner, Damon Arandelovic, Shelli Bankier, Brent Bielmann, Brian Bielmann, John Bilderback, Peter Boskovich, Art Brewer, Chris Burkard, John Callahan, Tom Carey, Sylvain Cazenave, Jason Childs, Steve Conti, Justin Crawford, Tyler Cuddy, Mick Curley, Jeff Divine, Jack English, Grant Ellis, Alfredo Escobar, Jon Farthing, Jeff Flindt, Pete Frieden, Hank, Rob Hazelwood, Yassine Hilal, Leith Holtzman, Dick Hoole, Dustin Humphrey, Mark Johnson, Joli, Lucia Griggi, Nick LaVecchia, Nathan Lawrence, Morgan Maassen, Brad Masters, Ryan Miller, Jason Murray, Mark Newsham, Dave Nelson, Rod Owen, Jason Reposar, John Respondek, Tom Servais, Roger Sharp, Peter Simons, Jamie Scott, Kelly Smith, Mickey Smith, Chris Straley, DJ Struntz, Ian Stewart, Patrick Trefz, David Troyer, Marty Tullemans, Corey Wilson, Scott Winer.

ADVERTISING
NATIONAL SALES MANAGER:
Andy Rosenberg 0421 384 428 andyr@morrisonmedia.com.au
ACCOUNT MANAGER:
Rob "Bainy" Bain 0433 795 595 rob.b@morrisonmedia.com.au
AD PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATOR:
Claire Hutchence (07) 5520 9128 claireh@morrisonmedia.com.au

GENERAL MANAGER:
Craig Sims craig@morrisonmedia.com.au
PRODUCTION MANAGER:
John "Pocket Blocker" Harland john@morrisonmedia.com.au
CIRCULATION MANAGER:
Adam Brown (07) 5520 9124 adam.b@morrisonmedia.com.au
IT MANAGER:
Josh Croft josh@morrisonmedia.com.au
DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR:
Jason Collins jason.c@morrisonmedia.com.au
ADMINISTRATION: Angela Thompson, Kim Woodward
PROOFREADER: Rachel Morgenbesser
SUBSCRIPTION & MERCHANDISE MANAGER:
Sharon Gray subs@surfinglife.com.au



TO SUBSCRIBE
Freecall in Australia **1800 069 918** OR go to page 108 of this issue
OR visit **www.surfinglife.com.au/shop**

Send contributions to the Editor wade@surfinglife.com.au or post to PO Box 823, Burleigh Heads, Q. 4220. We will not hold ourselves responsible for unsolicited contributions. SL will retain reprint rights, contributors retain all other rights for resale and republication. SL is published 12 times a year by Morrison Media Services, Street: Level 1, 25 Lemana Lane, North Burleigh, Q. 4220. Post: PO Box 823, Burleigh Heads, Q. 4220. Views expressed by authors are not necessarily those of the publisher. Copyright is reserved, which means you can't scan our pages and put them up on your website or anywhere else. Reproduction in whole or part is prohibited. Email addresses are published for professional communications only. AUST & N.Z. Distributor Gordon & Gotch.

SURFING LIFE **Surfing Life – *Built In Burleigh, Since 1985***
Morrison Media www.morrisonmedia.com.au

SHARKBANZ
$109.95



Sharks possess the most sensitive electro-magnetic sense of all known animals, and use it to judge distance, shape, and even the heart rate of other animals near them. Most of the time, sharks get it right and leave people alone. Occasionally, they don't. Sometimes when relying on their electro-receptors, a curious shark may bite a person in order to figure out what he or she is. These unprovoked 'hit-and-run' attacks are the most common type, and unfortunately for a lot of people, being the alpha-predator of the ocean, it's often enough to lose a limb, or one's life. As sharks approach a person wearing Sharkbanz, experiments have shown that the magnetic waves coming from the band disrupt electro-receptors and they quickly turn away. This technology has been tested extensively on more than 10 of the most common predatory shark species that are responsible for the majority of 'hit-and-run' attacks, and Sharkbanz claims to be an excellent defence against these types of attacks. Great whites are unique in that they are the only shark that acts as an ambush predator, attacking from a long distance at high speed. There is no effective way to prevent this type of ambush attack at present. However, many of the recent attacks, on the north coast of NSW at least, have been deemed investigatory attacks, not ambush attacks. Great Whites rely heavily on their electro-magnetic sense when swimming in open water, and Sharkbanz claims its product could effectively deter an investigating Great White. Now, Surfing Life aren't saying that the Sharkbanz will help you if you decide to go and surf on dusk at North Wall Ballina, with no one else around and a tuna strapped to your ankle. But obeying all the regular precautions and warning signs, as well as using Sharkbanz may provide the defence needed to deter an investigating shark and, importantly, provide some much-needed peace of mind, which is what we're chasing!
– RJ sharkbanz.com.au



DRAGON
#GETSHADED

Shot something sick recently? Chuck it up on Instagram with #GETSHADED, and if it gets selected as our reader photo of the month, there'll be a fresh pair of sunnies en route to your mailbox. Get 'grammin!
This month's winner is: @lukejahkook

Get back in the water

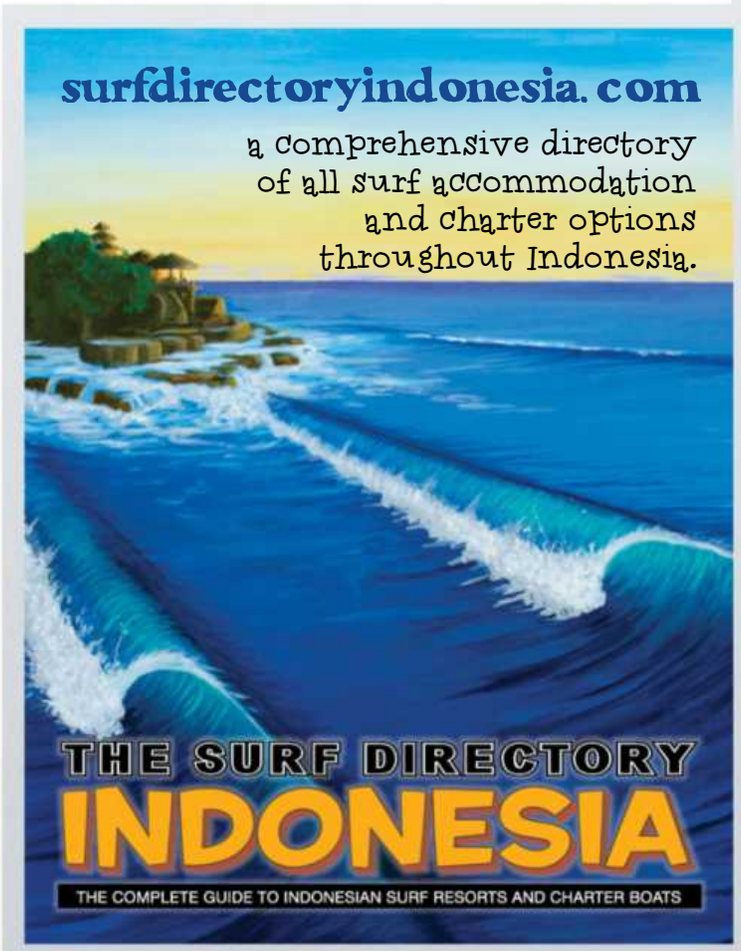


Surfing can be hell on your back. But not with Backsaver - the first lower back support designed for surfers by a surfer.
Backsaver is made with high quality materials, comes in three sizes, is comfortable, flexible and best of all, it works.
$135 incl GST & express post (Aust)
see our website for postage outside Australia.
For more info call 0412 288 316
Online orders insideedgebacksaver.com.au
inside edge **backsaver**®



FUTURE FINS
RIDE NUMBER

How many people that surf really understand the nuances of fin design? The general gist is pretty simple, you know – flex, rake, foil and trying to find the perfect balance. You, as the well-informed reader, understand; but what about Johnny-no-name down the road? He's not in the top 5 per cent of great surfers, but he still wants a good setup down south in the fin department. Everyone does, and rightfully so. Oh! That Johnny down the street, still grappling with the idea of offshore versus onshore winds, he wants to rip. Sure, getting out there and doing it is the logical answer. But good equipment certainly doesn't hurt. Having all the right gear is the difference between having those surfs where everything just clicks, it all feels so good, and the session where you leave swearing to never surf ever again. Get Johnny clued in! Just like the huge technological success of 'sleep numbers' and 'body mass index' before them, Future Fins has taken the guesswork and assumption out of fin setups with their 'Ride Number' technology. Using numerical measurement to make sure you're getting the perfect set for your surfing and board – turning Yeah, I reckon they work alright to These things are lighting up, baby! It works off a scale from 1 (speed control) to 10 (speed generating); 5 being a median, with either side dabbling in control and generation. So if you know what you want you can just – bam! – pin point it just like that. But if you're not quite sure, you're able to punch in some information about your surfing and weight and they will recommend the best fins for you. Bravo Futures Fins! Bravo technology!
– SJ futuresfins.com.au



STAPLE
SEASON

Autumn 2016



Orders Open Now
- Partners Revealed Soon -

STAPLESEASON.COM

We're always surfing, why aren't you?

SUBSCRIBE

WHACK A SURFING LIFE FIVE-PANEL FLAT BRIM ON YOUR MELON, THANKS TO OUR MATES AT RDK CO.

Not only will it protect your beautiful face from premature ageing and melanoma, but you'll look damn good too.

Stay young forever and score babes! You can't lose!



SUPERIOR RKD CO. MANUFACTURING

TO SUBSCRIBE:

ONLINE
www.surfinglife.com.au/shop

PHONE
1800 069 918 within Australia
+61 7 5576 1388

EMAIL
subs@surfinglife.com.au

Please make cheque or money order payable to Morrison Media Services. Subscription will commence with issue 329 sent out on/around 23/12/2015. Offer available to Australian residents only and while stocks last. Product and style may vary due to availability. Gift is 1 of 50 SL/RDK caps. Offer expires on the 7/1/2016. Easy payment plan: Your card will be debited every 3 months at $28 and will continue unless cancelled by you. You may cancel at any time and receive a refund on any unsent issues. Easy Payment Plan is only available to Australian residents. Offer not included with Payment Plan or with a 6-month subscription.



PAYMENT PLAN

3 MONTHS (3 ISSUES) **$28.00**

6 MONTHS (6 ISSUES) **$54.95**

1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) **$99.95**

NOTE: ALL PRICES ARE IN AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INTERNATIONAL PRICES



DIGITAL EDITIONS: www.surfinglife.com.au/digitaledition

BACK ISSUES: www.surfinglife.com.au/shop

WE TOLD YOU, EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.

It seems like the more we engage with the media the more the world seems fucked. Domestic violence, war, terrorism, shark attacks, natural disasters and man made horrors fill our news cycle and make us wonder if everything is going to be OK.

And then we go surfing and realise that yes, indeed, it will be.

It times when it seems more difficult to make sense of the world all it takes is a splash in the sea to realise that everything today really isn't all that different than it was yesterday. While the world seems like it's falling apart, the waves keep on rolling in, and we keep on wriggling along them, doing our crazy little dance against the madness.

Wade Goodall blew his leg up three times. He's back in the water and everything's going to be all right. The shark situation was getting out of control on the Northern NSW coast, and if the players play it right everything'll be all right there too.

And it's just going to get better. With the year coming to a close we thought we'd head to surfing's birthplace, to da Rock, to talk to the one guy with the best viewpoint on just how all right everything's going to be – Mason Ho.

And we'll wrap up the competitive year with the World Title wrap up. For whom was the year the most all right? Mick? Filipe? Adriano? Gabriel? Owen? Julian?

The first issue of 2016 will pick up where this one left off, with in depth treatment of core surfing, all the interviews you want, and a little bit of humour. Make sure you join us for the fun.





THANKS FOR COMING

Will Mason Ho tell us what the 'aloha spirit' is? It sure looks like a swell time.
PHOTO: TRENT MITCHELL

GET SHADED

EVAN GEISELMAN

DETAIL COLLECTION / MONARCH



#getshaded @dragonausnz


REEF


What is it that makes us explore?
The restless urge to pack up and go.
When the rumor of a perfect wave won't leave your mind.
The anticipation, the laughs, the disasters, the surf.
It defines who we are...
THE SEARCH
RIP CURL